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## Germany Forces CompuServe to Censor Sex on the Internet

By Mitchell Martin  
International Herald Tribune

Germany has imposed strict censorship on a portion of the Internet, forcing the on-line service CompuServe Inc. to ban worldwide access to about 200 bulletin boards that contain material with sexual content, the U.S.-based company said Thursday.

The action suggests an unfamiliarity with the workings of the worldwide computer network, however, because the banned areas are only a small part of the Internet, and access to many other sites that can contain pornographic materials remains unimpeded. But since CompuServe's technology did not allow it to restrict access only to Germany, the service has

"temporarily" halted access to the areas in question to all of its 4 million users around the world.

German officials "approached us about a month ago, they came to our offices," said William Giles, a spokesman for CompuServe in Columbus, Ohio. "They had heard about some things that were out there," he said, but CompuServe executives persuaded them that the offending material was on the Internet itself. The on-line service provides content of its own as well as access to the broader network.

All of the banned sites are Internet newsgroups, to which people can post documents such as letters and photographs. But the action does not affect sites on the World Wide Web, the multimedia portion of the Internet, which contains many commercial and

private sites that contain pornographic material.

CompuServe said Germany had identified 200 newsgroups with content that was illegal under German criminal law. Authorities are investigating newsgroups and other Internet content that may contain illegal pornographic material and pornography that is legal for adults but too explicit for children.

The German mandate was unexpected. The United States has been considering legislation to regulate pornographic content on computer services but none has been enacted.

Other countries have said they would restrict access to the Internet. Chinese officials have said they would set high fees for Internet use and seek other ways to control access, while Singapore has warned it

would act against anyone using the Internet to transmit pornographic or seductive material.

Because anybody with a computer can post information on the Internet, it is unclear how a government could prevent its citizens from receiving data it wants to ban. Germany's action would not stop its own citizens with direct access to the Internet from seeing the newsgroups. It could also encourage CompuServe users in other countries to use alternate providers of direct Internet access.

CompuServe and its larger rival, America Online Inc., are expanding their European presences as they seek to woo users who might seek direct Internet access

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## Good So Far, Says Admiral Of NATO's Deployment

By John Pomfret  
Washington Post Service

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Plans to deploy NATO forces into the heart of Bosnian Serbian territory have been speeded up "by months" because of initial compliance with the terms of the Dayton peace plan, Admiral Leighton Smith of the United States said Thursday.

Admiral Smith will journey Friday to the Serbian-held city of Banja Luka — the center of a region from which the Serbs have expelled an estimated 500,000 Muslims and Croats from their homes since 1992. He said he expected the Bosnian Serbs to invite the NATO-led operation to establish a headquarters there in a sign of Serbian willingness to implement the Dayton peace plan.

The Bosnian Serbs used the deployment of hundreds of United Nations soldiers on their territory in late May as a source for taking almost 400 hostages. North Atlantic Treaty Organization officers have said their heightened vigilance and their formidable firepower would prevent a repeat of that humiliating experience.

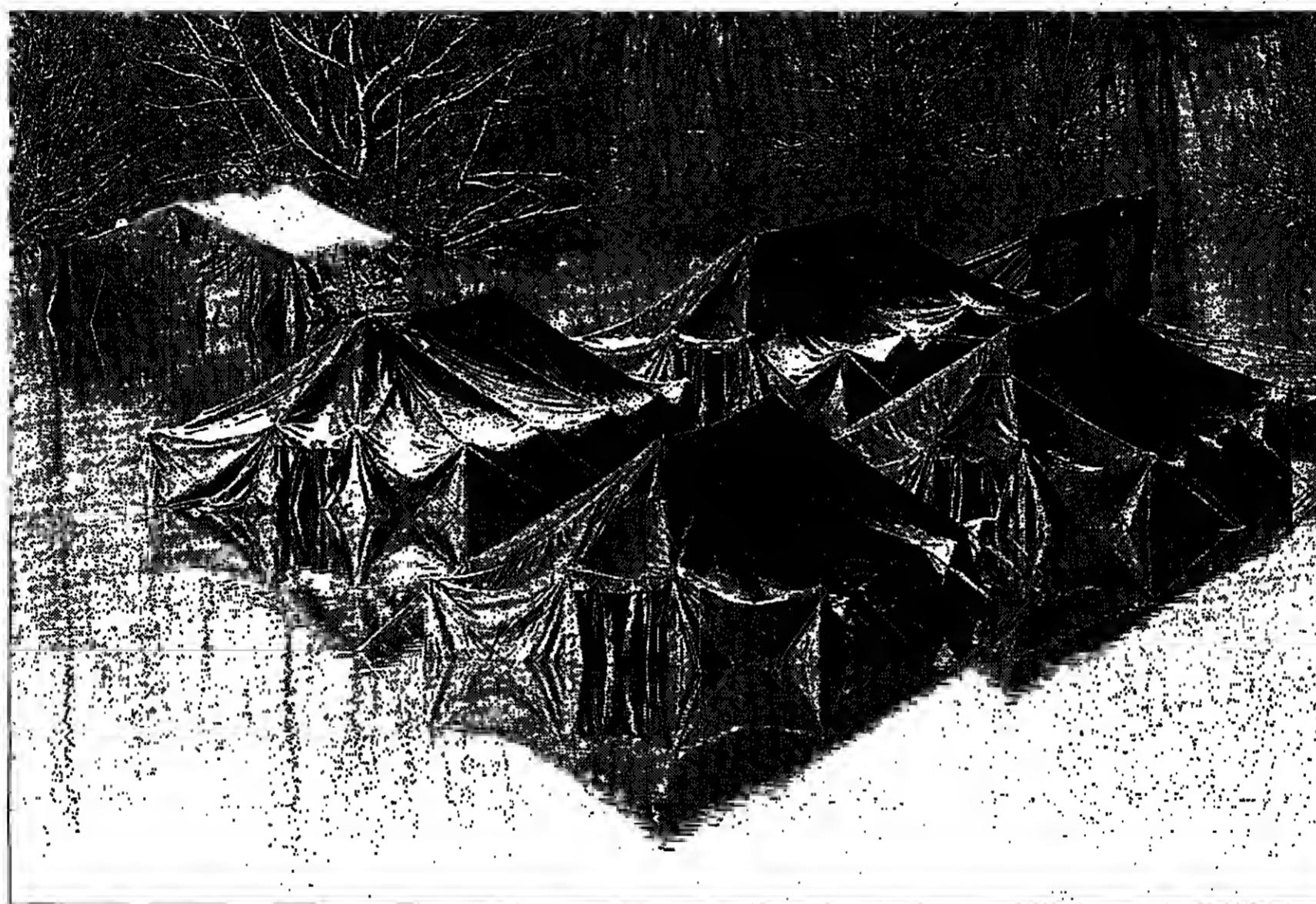
Admiral Smith said he believed the best location for the base would be Banja Luka's airport. Over the summer, the admiral, as commander of NATO's southern theater, recommended bombing the airfield because the Bosnian Serbs had resumed violating the no-flight zone that NATO was patrolling over Bosnia. Now, instead of destroying the airbase, Admiral Smith said his forces wanted to turn it into a headquarters for British troops in a marked indication of the changes happening in Bosnia over the last few weeks.

Admiral Smith was speaking in a wide-ranging interview with newspaper reporters on the day of the first major success of his operation to implement peace in Bosnia. His remarks constituted the clearest enunciation so far of the goals and terms of his historic peace mission.

Under the Dayton plan, Serbian and Muslim forces around Sarajevo had until midnight Wednesday to vacate 40 positions, including sniper's nests, trenches and bunkers, that had ringed Sarajevo for three and a half years. On Thursday, General Louis Zitter, commander of French NATO troops in Sarajevo, said that the warring factions had met the deadline.

"Today, in Sarajevo we can say that the first phase of the peace accords, signed in Paris on December 14, has been respected."

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A U.S. military camp sitting submerged Thursday after flooding near the Croatian town of Zupanja, where troops were building a pontoon bridge. Page 10.

## Richard Lugar: Brainy, Bland and Quite Far Behind

By Jerry Gray  
New York Times Service

### CAMPAIGN '96

#### Presidential Contenders Third in a series

WASHINGTON — Consider the resume: two-term mayor of Indianapolis; U.S. senator for nearly two decades; a Senate leader in the campaigns to rescue New York City and Chrysler Corp. from financial collapse; former chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; three times on the short list to be the running mate of the Republican presidential nominee.

By a number of measures, Senator Richard G. Lugar of Indiana is among the most qualified candidates ever to run for president of the United States.

"Everything a President Should Be," goes the slogan for his campaign.

Everything but charismatic, that is.

Despite his credentials, the brainy and statesmanlike Mr. Lugar remains virtually unknown outside his home state. Polite, wordy and bland, he also remains far back in the Republican presidential pack, badly trailing Senator Bob Dole of Kansas, Senator Phil Gramm of Texas and a host of other candidates who are tougher-talking, more glib and more telegenic.

"I suppose for the purposes of a campaign," Mr. Lugar, 63, conceded in an

interview the other day, "it might be more useful to get more of a thunderbolt quality."

That lack of flash is not the only thing working against the senator. His campaign is both underfinanced and understaffed, and he started many months behind most other Republican candidates.

When he finally did make the formal announcement of his candidacy on April 19, it was all but drowned out by the Oklahoma City bombing that day.

Mr. Lugar has also bucked the times with his choice of a campaign theme. In a period when tax cuts, a balanced budget and less intrusive government are issues that resonate with the voters, he is stressing his foreign policy experience in the Senate, where he was chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee a decade ago.

for much of the period since then as the committee's ranking Republican and is now second among its majority only to the current chairman, Jesse A. Helms of North Carolina.

His goal is to persuade the American people that their choice for president should be the candidate best able to lead the country in the post-Cold War era.

"Foreign affairs is not a strong suit for any of the rest of them," he said of the other candidates. "They would prefer to talk about taxes and spending and budgets. But the unique role for the president of the United States is commander in chief, the person most responsible for the security of the country."

Mr. Lugar has been a leader in fighting

See LUGAR, Page 10

## Thalidomide Is Back, but in a New Role

By Kimberly J. McLaren  
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Randy Warren never believed he would see the return of thalidomide, but the drug that caused him to be born without hips has quietly emerged from its disgrace.

The drug was banned throughout the world in the early 1960s, after a generation of babies was born with deformities because their mothers used it as a sedative or to reduce morning sickness. Still, it continued to be used, even to a limited extent in the United States, to treat leprosy.

Now, however, thalidomide is being tested widely against a range of diseases including tuberculosis and several AIDS-related illnesses, and scientists are exploring whether the drug inhibits the growth of HIV. At least two companies in the United States manufacture the drug with the blessing

of the Food and Drug Administration. But thalidomide's return has shaken those it deformed as babies, and left them struggling to reconcile a loathing of the drug with the possibility that it could help thousands of sick people.

Mr. Warren said he could not, in good conscience, advocate keeping thalidomide from anyone whose pain it might ease. Still, the thought of people taking the drug makes him cringe, even with new safeguards intended to prevent pregnancy.

See DRUG, Page 10

## Diabolical Fate for Faust's Bar Capitalism Closes East German Watering Hole

By Stephen Kinzer  
New York Times Service

erful magnet for tourists from around the world.

But recently, as a result of a more modern form of black magic, the doors of Auerbach's Keller were locked shut. The restaurant had survived nearly 500 years of wars, plagues and dictatorships, but the advent of capitalism in eastern Germany has proved too much for it.

Lawyers, bankers and court-appointed receivers are trying to negotiate a deal under which the beloved cellar can reopen, but so far they have been unsuccessful. Life-size statues of Faust and Mephisto, as Goethe called his Devil, still guard the stone steps leading down to its doors, but

the Devil's account of their transaction made Auerbach's Keller immovable, a pow-

See CELLAR, Page 10



EXECUTION IN CHINA — Wang Jianye, a trade official convicted of embezzlement, being led to his execution Thursday in south China. Page 4.

## González, In Trouble, Calls Election For March 3

### Spanish Socialists Trail in Most Polls Following Scandals

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MADRID — Buffeted by a series of political scandals and deprived of a working majority in Parliament, Prime Minister Felipe González on Thursday called elections for March 3.

The 53-year-old Socialist leader, who has reluctantly agreed to head his party's slate for the seventh time, moved quickly into the campaign mode with a warning to voters that a conservative government might not be able to provide Spain with the leadership it needs to move into the 21st century.

Elections were not due until June 1997, but in the aftermath of a series of scandals that rocked his government, Mr. González said last summer that he would set an earlier date. The scandals ranged from the government's role in secret death squads to combat Basque terrorism to illegal telephone tapping.

The scandals cost him the support of his Catalan ally, Jordi Pujol, the regional president. Mr. Pujol had backed Mr. González in Parliament since the Socialists lost their majority in June 1993, but became increasingly irritated by the scandals.

Allegations that the government backed and funded unlawful killings of suspected Basque guerrillas in a 1980s "dirty war" were the final straw for the Catalan leader, and he joined the opposition to defeat Mr. González's 1996 budget.

Mr. González said at a press conference that he had "no feeling of failure" in having had to call early elections.

The four-year legislature had its time cut short by a third, he said. But he added: "I do think we've cut the electoral program by a third. I think we've carried out 80 or 90 percent of it."

Most polls indicate that the center-right Popular Party would win the most seats, if not an outright majority, in the 350-seat lower house of Parliament.

Parliament will be dissolved on Jan. 9. The campaign does not begin officially until Feb. 16, but Mr. González's comments after the final cabinet meeting of the year appeared to set the same tone as that used by the Socialists in June 1993 to warn voters of the danger on the right.

In those elections, the Socialists lost the absolute majority they had enjoyed since October 1982, when they first swept into power with a landslide victory and a clear mandate for change.

Immediately after the 1993 vote, the Popular Party leader, José María Aznar, began calling for new elections and Mr. González's resignation. The 42-year-old conservative leader contended that Mr. González was morally unfit to govern after having presided over the scandals.

Judicial investigations are under way on several of the scandals, and several trials have been set.

The March 3 elections will be the seventh since Spain returned to democracy in 1977, two years after the death of Franco ended his 36 years of authoritarian rule.

Mr. González had said he would prefer not to run again, but with the designation of the former foreign minister, Javier Solana Madariaga, as secretary-general of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Socialists feel they had no other candidate of sufficient stature.

(AP, Reuters)

## AGENDA

### Clinton Vetoes Defense Funding

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton vetoed a \$265 billion defense authorization bill Thursday, objecting to its demands for costly weapons systems he said were unnecessary.

In his veto message, Mr. Clinton said he particularly objected to the attempt written into the bill by the Republican Congress to compel him to build and deploy a Star Wars-style missile defense system by 2003.

He said building such a missile defense system now would violate the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty with Russia and harm arms control efforts.

Indications are that Mr. Clinton's veto may be sustained by Congress. The Senate sent the fiscal 1996 defense authorization bill to the White House on a 51-43 vote. The House vote was 267 to 149. Neither equaled the two-thirds majorities needed to override a veto.

Earlier article on Page 3.

Dow Jones	Trib Index
Down 10.12	Down 0.60%
5095.90	131.84
DM 1.4365	1.4335
Pound 1.5475	1.56
Yen 102.80	102.83
FF 4.921	4.8975

*'Huge Thunder, Tiny Raindrops' / Trapped in Poverty in China's Interior*

## Deng's Economic Miracle Leaves Millions Behind

By Patrick E. Tyler  
*New York Times Service*

**D**ONGWANG, China — Chen Xianhe is not a revolutionary. He is just a down-on-his-luck peasant whose wife has run away to escape the poverty here and whose only cow fell off a cliff in May and died.

But Mr. Chen, 30, and many of his neighbors in this remote and desperately poor region of southwestern China speak a language of disaffection that is worrying China's Communist Party leaders.

No one is predicting a rebellion here, but it is hard for anyone, including the party bosses in Beijing, to understand where the limits of tolerance are for 1.2 billion Chinese.

Last year at this time, tens of thousands of peasants roared out of their villages and rioted in the cities of Kaili and Tongren in Guizhou Province, and army units were sent to restore order.

The grievances there were similar to the ones here: crushing tax burdens, brutish population control and a sense of hopelessness about escaping poverty, about feeding and schooling families, about living in something more than a reed house on a limestone hillside.

As China's economic miracle continues to leave millions behind, more Chinese are expressing anger over the economic disparities between the flourishing provinces of China's coastal plain and the impoverished inland, where 70 million to 80 million people cannot feed or clothe themselves and where hundreds of millions of others are only spectators to China's economic transformation.

On a recent morning, during a pause from stacking corn stalks, Mr. Chen easily unburdened the frustrations of his impoverishment to visitors, as many of his neighbors joined in.

"I am really angry," he said, squatting on a wooden stool in front of his dirt-floor hut. "This year, I wanted to get electricity for my hut, but I didn't have the money."

His neighbor Xie Qiaoying, 55, a grandmother, added, "Since Liberation, we haven't had a year in which we could completely feed ourselves," referring to the Communist victory over the Nationalists in 1949.

Last year, one woman in the village got pregnant even though she already had two children, the limit in this area. "The family planning authorities came and took her cow away," Mrs. Xie said, forcing the woman to agree to an abortion or lose the cow. When the women relented and submitted to the abortion, the government charged her half a year's income to get her cow back.

**S**UBMISSION is a strong tradition in China, but so is rebellion. When the riots hit Tongren, Communist Party officials blamed a handful of agitators who went from village to village to whip up anti-government sentiment.

Unofficial accounts said there had been "many deaths." Even the Communist Party newspaper in Guizhou seemed breathless in reporting that "illegal elements openly smashed vehicles, illegally took hostages and robbed public security cadres and police of their firearms, thus causing serious consequences" that "shocked the entire province."

But what is more shocking to many peasants are the tales of China's new millionaires exploiting the tax breaks, child labor and financial privileges created for the "special economic zones" in the coastal provinces.

These stories have nurtured a deep resentment among an inland population that has been eagerly awaiting its turn under the economic reform policies of Deng Xiaoping.

With Mr. Deng in firm at 91, the very success of his reforms has revived the late-



Chen Zianhe sitting with his two daughters in their open-air hut in Dongwang.

passion of a long debate in China about egalitarianism. The debate pits the era of Mao with all of its Communist idealism of a level society — an idealism still very much alive across several generations of Chinese — against the reform era of Mr. Deng.

In the Deng age, the wonders of capitalism have re-created in China great inequalities, dislocations and the scourge of corruption and vice that many Chinese, whether they still believe in communism or not, deeply loathe.

For 16 years, ever since Mr. Deng set China on the path of economic reform, hundreds of millions of peasants in the interior have suffered under his admonition that some areas would have to get rich first while others per-

severed in poverty.

Millions of peasants in Mr. Deng's native Sichuan Province and in Yunnan, Guangxi and here in the Mashan region of Guizhou, about 100 miles south of the provincial capital, Guiyang, are among those who have been waiting. Now, many of them are seething.

Mr. Cheo is raising his two daughters by himself in an open-air hut where temperatures dip to freezing this time of year and make it even harder to haul water up the mountain on a pole, or get any sleep under a thin quilt after an unmooring dinner of cornmeal gruel.

The local government has just taken the equivalent of two years' income from Mr.

Chen to bring electricity to his village, which for Mr. Chen means two 60-watt lightbulbs to illuminate the squallor of his life.

"I don't have much faith in anything," he said. "My misfortunes seem to never come alone. We don't have money to buy fertilizer, I don't have a cow or ox to cultivate the land and the soil is barren."

"My highest wish," he added, "is that the government will change its policies and help us get rich, because living in this kind of poverty makes us too embarrassed to even go out of doors."

To a great extent, Communist Party leaders have tried to alleviate poverty, and they can claim a measure of success.

Since 1978, when Mr. Deng pushed through the first agricultural reforms, freeing the peasants to expand their private plots and markets, more than 170 million Chinese have climbed above the "absolute poverty" line of \$43 a year per capita.

But as the World Bank pointed out this year, "the quick reductions of poverty through agricultural growth" in China "were largely exhausted by the end of 1984."

"Most of the residual poor have remained trapped in more remote upland areas where agricultural productivity gains have proved far more problematic," the bank's agricultural division said in a report issued in May.

But in the interior, the peasants continue to wait. Mr. Hu, who toured Guizhou this year, said, "It will be a long and hard struggle to bring those people out of their backward state, as long and as arduous a struggle as the Civil War in the United States."

## Sob Story Turns Out to Be a Christmas Scam

*The Associated Press*

**S**ALT LAKE CITY — The 12-year-old boy's story touched hearts nationwide. He had been abandoned at a bus stop before Christmas and his birthday.

It turns out, however, that the boy was actually a 25-year-old woman who had pulled similar scams in several other states, trying to get sympathy, places to stay and free services.

Birdie Jo Hoaks has been jailed in at least two states for the same kind of ploy.

Utah officials were already suspicious about the tale of abandonment after Ms. Hoaks refused to undergo a medical exam. They discovered her true identity Wednesday after the authorities in Vermont contacted them about a similar case.

When confronted, Ms. Hoaks confessed to making up the story, said Sergeant Jim Vaughn of the Salt Lake County sheriff's office.

She was arrested and faces charges of making false statements to a judge and theft of

services. She could be sentenced to up to 15 years in prison if convicted.

Ms. Hoaks (pronounced *hawks*, coincidentally) called Utah social services officials on Dec. 20. She told a social worker that she had been left at a bus stop by her stepmother and father.

She provided a birth certificate that said she was Michael Ross, who would celebrate his 13th birthday on Christmas Day.

She gave the authorities a letter supposedly written by the stepmother that said she could no longer care for the boy because his father had AIDS and his birth mother was dead.

While still posing as a boy, Ms. Hoaks told officials that she had never been to school, and that her family lived a nomadic life, finding shelter where they could. She was placed in a group home.

Rebecca S. Smith, a social worker in Salt Lake City, said Ms. Hoaks had been offered donations and gifts and even their homes. The state and a local newspaper set up trust funds.

"I'm just glad frankly that it unraveled as quickly as it did," said Mary Noonan, director of the Division of Family Services. The office said any documents would be returned.

Vermont officials contacted Utah and provided a photograph of Ms. Hoaks. She had been arrested in Vermont in 1993 for a similar scam and sentenced to 23 days in jail.

In April, Ms. Hoaks told officials in Rapid City, South Dakota, that she was 13-year-old Nathan Devine, and that he had been abandoned by his mother who could no longer care for him.

She received about \$728 in cash and benefits before work-

ers at a youth home became suspicious and called the police.

Ms. Hoaks served seven months of a nine-month sentence for welfare fraud before being released from a South Dakota jail on Oct. 11.

In 1993, as a 22-year-old, Ms. Hoaks convinced the police in Bennington, Vermont, that she was a 12-year-old Arkansas boy who had been abandoned in Maine. Two days later, her true identity was discovered during a physical exam.

In 1992, she stayed at a boy's home in Wichita, Kansas, for six weeks and received free foot surgery and Christmas presents. Her ploy was discovered when doctors found a Caesar's section scar. She was not charged.

Cases involving Ms. Hoaks have been reported in Alaska, Idaho, Maine, Montana, New Jersey, New York, Texas and West Virginia.

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## 2 Men Charged With Planting Bomb in Reno

*The Associated Press*

**R**ENO, Nevada — Two men have been arrested on charges of planning a bomb at the Internal Revenue Service building here earlier this month. Federal agents said Thursday the bomb did not go off.

Ellis Edward Hurst, 52, and Joseph Martin Ballie, 40, were arrested in the Gardnerville area, where both men lived.

A statement from the investigating agencies gave no motive for the attempted bombing. The men were charged with attempted destruction of a government building and the use of a destructive device in relation to a crime of violence.

The bomb, a 30-gallon plastic drum, was found Dec. 18 in a parking lot by an employee. It reportedly was packed with ammonium nitrate and fuel oil.

## Russia Staggered By Flu Epidemic Millions Are Stricken; Ukraine Also Hard-Hit

By Michael Specter  
*New York Times Service*

**M**OSCOW — The most severe flu epidemic in decades is sweeping Russia and Ukraine, with as many as 200,000 people falling ill each day, according to health officials in Moscow.

Nearly 1 million people have been infected in Moscow alone, and it is nearly impossible to find a family that has been spared. In Ukraine, at least 2 million people have already gotten sick, and health officials there said the number could triple in the next two weeks.

So far, only a few deaths have been officially reported — five in Ukraine, three in Russia — but the experience of past flu epidemics makes it likely that the number of fatalities is much higher than reported.

Doctors here also say that respiratory complications from the illness can persist for weeks. Many schools in both countries have been shut; hospitals are under quarantine and government officials have warned that every streetcar, subway and bus has become the perfect vessel for transmitting the virus.

"We were getting as many as 50,000 new cases a day in Moscow alone the past two weeks," said Galina F. Lavikova, chief of the department of infectious disease for the Russian Ministry of Health. "We thought it was going to get even worse but we may be seeing the peak here."

In both countries, officials were quick to point out that the flu virus, while unusually virulent this year, was not the only reason for the rapid spread of the epidemic.

If Deng Xiaoping knew the disparities were as big as they are, he would be more militant than I am in trying to eliminate them," said Ho Angang, a researcher at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing. "Every country has regional differences, but in China the regional differences are getting bigger, not smaller."

Mr. Hu, 42, has become, if not the most influential, at least the most vocal of Communist Party intellectuals sounding the warning that the inequities in China's reform program are breeding rebellion.

"In America," he warned, "the deep differences between the North and South more than 100 years ago led to the Civil War."

He insisted that he, and many like-minded party apparatchiks, were not seeking to undermine China's coastal engines of economic growth. "But since the coastal areas can now sustain their development and get rich, I don't think it is unreasonable to shift the focus to the undeveloped areas," he said, "if only from the point of view of justice and equality."

President Jiang Zemin and other top leaders are apparently heeding the warnings of some provincial leaders that rising crime, rebellion and warlordism will be the consequence of not addressing the huge disparities.

But in the interior, the peasants continue to wait. Mr. Hu, who toured Guizhou this year, said, "It will be a long and hard struggle to bring those people out of their backward state, as long and as arduous a struggle as the Civil War in the United States."

## TRAVEL UPDATE

### Louvre Sets Free Sunday Admissions

**P**ARIS (AP) — France's premier museum, the Louvre, will be free to visitors on the first Sunday of each month in 1996, the authorities announced here Thursday.

Culture Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy had said earlier that he wanted to make the huge museum more accessible to the wider public. Entry to the Louvre had been free on Sundays until six years ago, when a reduced fee compared with the normal weekday price was introduced.

Groups will not be allowed in on free Sundays to avoid overcrowding, and the admissions program will be evaluated over two years.

### UAL and Delta Trim Winter Fares

**C**HICAGO (Reuters) — United Airlines joined in a winter fare sale Thursday, saying it would match reduced-price fares offered by Delta Air Lines. "We are marching Delta in competitive markets," said Joe Hopkins, a UAL spokesman.

Delta earlier offered 30 percent to 50 percent off regular advanced purchase fares for travel in the United States, Canada and Mexico. The special fares require at least a seven-day advance purchase and a stay over a Saturday night. Tickets are for travel from Jan. 2 through Feb. 29, and must be purchased no later than Jan. 10, Delta said.

A walkout by Icelandic air-traffic controllers loomed after the breakdown of pay talks on Thursday, but civil aviation authorities in Reykjavik vowed there would be no disruption of trans-Atlantic air travel. All 82 Icelandic air-traffic controllers have submitted their resignations, threatening to stop work at the end of the year, but the authorities have used a legal provision to extend the contracts of 32 of them for three months. (Reuters)

At least 99 people died of frostbite over the last week and many more are missing after blizzards in northern Kazakhstan, the State Emergency Committee said Thursday. (Reuters)

In a crackdown in Greece, the Supreme Court has asked public prosecutors to file felony murder charges against any driver who kills someone while driving drunk or in a knowingly hazardous fashion. (AP)

**TO CUT THROUGH  
THE HASSLES OF USING A  
FOREIGN PHONE,  
CUT ALONG THE DOTTED LINE.**

**Sprint**

Just tell the taxi driver, "Sank roo doe noo"™  
PARIS: 5, Rue Daunou  
GENEVA: Confederation Center  
MS EUROPA: At Sea  
MONTREUX: Montreux Palace

COUNTRIES	ACCESS NUMBERS	COUNTRIES	ACCESS NUMBERS	COUNTRIES	ACCESS NUMBERS	COUNTRIES	ACCESS NUMBERS
American Samoa	632-1-000	Colombia	960-220-010	Indonesia (Sulawesi)	008-301-15	New Zealand (South Island)	023-301-0000
Antigua & Barbuda	1-800-360-4663	Costa Rica +	0800-001-3-123	Ireland +	1-800-45-2001	Norway	00-999-999
Argentina	00-1-202-77-1111	Cyprus +	0800-002-001	Italy +	177-10-02-72	Norway (Planned)	121
Armenia	8-10-155	Czech Republic +	094-002-187	Malta +	177-10-187	Norway (Planned)	120-1987
Aruba	800-9970	Denmark +	009-1-0277	Malta (Planned)	177-10-187	Phil	

## THE AMERICAS

## With the Cold War Over, Canada Spies on Its Allies, Former Aides Say

By Clyde H. Farnsworth  
New York Times Service

OTTAWA — It looks like any other nondescript government building, in a city full of them, until you notice that the high fence surrounding it is topped with barbed wire and there is only one way to get in — through what looks like a guardhouse.

The four-story Sir Leonard Tilley Building, named after an obscure 19th-century Canadian finance minister, houses Canada's most secretive intelligence agency, the Communications Security Establishment.

## CIA Chief Faces Test Over Reach Of Spy Arm

By Walter Pincus  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — John M. Deutch, director of the CIA, faces a major disciplinary decision next month that could provide an important test of the influence of the agency's clandestine Directorate of Operations, the powerful intelligence arm that has become a target for critics of the agency.

The subject of Mr. Deutch's decision is the fate of the agency's chief of station in Paris, a respected veteran officer whose record includes heroism and a disfiguring injury in Africa during the 1970s.

The station chief, whose name is classified, has accepted personal responsibility for subordinates' errors that led to French counterintelligence uncovering a CIA economic espionage operation in 1993.

The issue for Mr. Deutch is the power and influence of the directorate, members of which have rallied behind the station chief in an effort to save his job.

The directorate has come under fire for missteps and mistakes since the fall of the Berlin Wall changed the face of American espionage, mistakes symbolized by Aldrich H. Ames, who betrayed agents to the Soviet Union for years.

Although Mr. Deutch has been moving ahead on a series of major reforms in the technical intelligence areas of spy satellites and analysis, he has been less effective in bringing order to the smaller, but more-complex field of human intelligence.

The French affair became a public scandal last February, when, in the midst of France's presidential campaign, Interior Minister Charles Fiterman asked the United States to recall four CIA officers associated with the U.S. Embassy in Paris and a female American agent.

Two weeks ago, sources said, when it appeared that a critical CIA inspector general report might lead Mr. Deutch to force the Paris station chief to resign before his expected retirement date, a few current and former senior operations officers took the unusual step of informing the director that such an action would cause a major outcry in the directorate.

"If he is given the ax it will be pretty shameful," one officer said.

Senior espionage officers said the decision is a test of Mr. Deutch's remarks to Congress last week that "it's time to stop criticism of the past few years" of the agency.

"Deutch has been saying one thing on the Hill and another at headquarters," a former CIA official said.

"Everyone's watching him on this one to see if he's finally decided to stop playing both ends against the middle."

## Away From Politics

The San Francisco police chief, Anthony Riera, has been cleared of accusations that he sexually harassed a former police officer who was once his chief spokeswoman. But a federal jury found that the city had discriminated against Joanne Welsh by replacing her as department spokeswoman and failing to pay her for two weeks of work. The jury awarded her \$56,835.

A 23-year-old man survived an attempted suicide plunge of 220 feet off the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, landing just yards from a psychiatrist who happened to be out in a rowboat with a cellular phone. Dennis Tison tossed the man his life jacket and used a phone to call the police. Coast Guard officials arrived within minutes and pulled the man out of the water. He was in serious but stable condition with back injuries.

A 94-year-old woman who lived in a rundown house despite having a \$4.4 million stock portfolio willed most of her fortune to Gallaudet University, a school for the deaf in Washington. Nobody seems to know where Olive Swindells got the money to buy stocks or the real estate she also owned, and Gallaudet had never heard of her.

The widow of a pedestrian who was struck and killed by a car just before Christmas last

The agency, the branch of the defense department that gathers signal intelligence, used to attract little public notice. But now, after much unwanted publicity from disgruntled former employees who accuse it of spying on Canadian citizens and Canada's allies, the agency finds itself the focal point of debate about intelligence gathering in Canadian society.

Jane Shorten, 38, worked for the agency as an intelligence analyst from 1986 to 1994, when she was laid off in a belt-tightening move. Recently she touched off minor international incidents after disclos-

ing in a television interview that Canada had spied on friendly countries such as South Korea and Mexico.

One of the projects she was involved in gathered economic, military and security intelligence on South Korea. With high-powered electronic listening devices she eavesdropped on secret discussions among South Korean officials about purchasing nuclear reactors.

"Anything having to do with the South Korean diplomatic corps was of interest," she told the CTV television network.

She also monitored communications

from the Mexican Embassy during the negotiations that led to the North American Free Trade Agreement among Canada, Mexico and the United States.

The Mexican government presented a diplomatic note to Canada expressing "surprise and concern." The South Korean Foreign Ministry said it would take "appropriate measures" after an investigation.

Although the Soviet Union and its allies were once the prime targets of surveillance, after the Cold War the Communications Security Establishment has shifted its at-

tention to economic espionage in friendly countries, Ms. Shorten said.

Ottawa says it will look into the new allegations. After reports this year that the CIA had spied on the Japanese delegation during auto trade talks, Solicitor General Herbert Gray was asked whether Canada carried out similar operations.

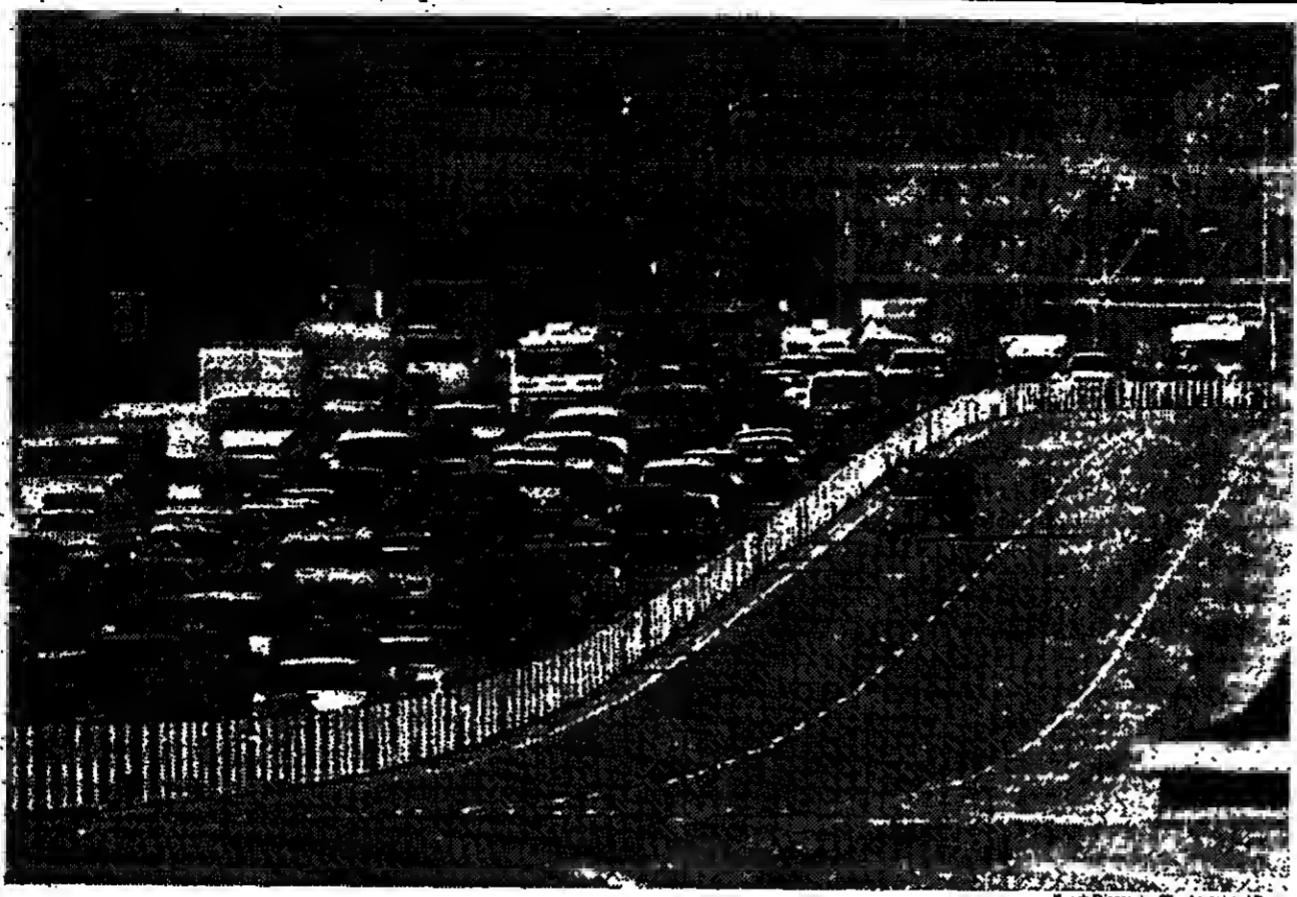
"Countries like Canada have under-

standings that they don't carry out these activities against each other," he told Parliament in October.

Interception of private communications

targets only foreign communications, but a gray area apparently exists with Canadians working for foreign embassies. Ms. Shorten expressed dismay at having to make the government's business to eavesdrop on one Canadian employee of a foreign embassy in discussions with her gynecologist.

Deputy Prime Minister Sheila Copps promised an official review of the Shorten allegation, adding, "If, in fact, there has been illegal activity going on, we'll want to deal with that in as public a way as possible."



A TOLL ROAD THAT RUNS ITSELF — A highway construction truck traveling the world's first fully automated toll road before it was opened in Anaheim, California. Motorists do not stop to pay tolls, but are debited later. Transponders in their vehicles allow for tracking the use of the 10-mile stretch alongside state Highway 91.

## POLITICAL NOTES

## Safety First, or Noise Prevention?

CHICAGO — It is a classic case of public safety concerns colliding with fears of noise pollution.

Officials in northeastern Illinois, the nation's rail hub, fear that a new federal law set to take effect in November will pierce the tranquility of their communities with the blare of whistles, day and night, from the hundreds of locomotives that pass through the region.

The obscure section of the law, enacted in 1994, orders the Federal Railroad Administration to require trains to sound their horns at every public road-rail crossing in the country, 24 hours a day. In October, seven high school students in a Chicago suburb were killed when their school bus was struck by a commuter express. But earlier this month an organization that represents 268 municipalities in northeastern Illinois voted to ask the rail agency to delay the law and allow for exemptions where accident rates are low.

(WP)

## Along the Medicare Battlefront

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton blasts the Republicans on Medicare, claiming their proposed cuts in spending growth are so steep that they will cripple the program and make it impossible to deliver decent health care to the 37 million elderly and disabled Americans who depend on it.

For their part, Republicans are having a field day with TV ads showing Hillary Rodham Clinton, in 1993, defending the Medicare provisions of the Clinton administration's now-defunct national health reform plan. In the clip, she says her plan would not cut Medicare but is merely "beginning to reduce the rate of increase." She says it would move from about 11 percent annually "to about 6 or 7 percent."

Then, the Republican announcer chimes in triumphantly that the current Republican plan actually would allow a higher rate of Medicare growth than the 1993-94 Clinton plan. It would "increase Medicare spending 7.2 percent, more than Mrs. Clinton's proposal."

The basic problem is this: Medicare, which will cost the government about \$200 billion next year, is growing at 10 percent or more annually.

The idea on both sides is to slow the rate of growth, and both sides have used much the same methods. The question remains: how deeply and how fast?

(WP)

## Quote/Unquote

Senator Bob Dole, acknowledging the time pressures he faces as the budget battle in Washington interferes with his campaign for the presidential nomination: "I thought certainly we'd be finished by Christmas. But you play the hand you're dealt."

(AP)

year is suing the town of Old Saybrook, Connecticut, saying its Christmas lights along Main Street made it difficult for drivers to see. The widow, Evelyn Delaney, is seeking unspecified damages. A police lieutenant, Richard Nigonski, said he had heard no other complaints about the decorations over the past 23 years.

A skydiver who could not open his parachute plunged 3,000 feet into a snowy field and survived. Bruce Charles' backup parachute partly opened just before he hit the ground near Allentown, Pennsylvania. He was in guarded condition with injuries to his legs, hips and back.

In order for transnational criminals to be successful in moving aliens halfway around the world, they have to build networks," said Jonathan Winter, deputy assistant secretary of state for international narcotics and law enforcement affairs. "It's absolutely critical that governments do the same thing."

Building networks of diplomacy and law enforcement, he said, "is the core of the strategy." President Clinton has signed off on and instructed us to carry out." He added that the White House recognized that "this is becoming a national security problem, not just an immigration problem."

"We're putting a very heavy emphasis on making the system work properly," said Doris M.

By William Branigin  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — In a report to President Bill Clinton, an interagency working group on the smuggling of illegal aliens to the United States has painted a grim picture of what it calls a "growing trade in human cargo" and recommended a more aggressive global effort to combat it.

The report, after a nine-month study by officials of the State and Justice departments, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Coast Guard, CIA and FBI, describes widespread official corruption and lax law enforcement in several countries as facilitating the flow of hundreds of thousands of people through lucrative smuggling pipelines that often lead to the United States. A copy of the report, sent to the president last month, was obtained by The Washington Post.

"Viewed globally, trafficking in illegal migrants is an enormous problem," the study says. "This growing trade in human cargo earns smugglers billions of dollars in annual profits" and is "made possible by staggering levels of official corruption."

Since alien-smuggling is a crime in only a few countries and penalties tend to be minimal, many trafficking organizations "operate with near impunity," the report says. In addition to being suborned by smugglers, it adds, authorities in some countries are reluctant to fight what they view it as a "victimless crime."

U.S. officials express hope that such views may be changing as "transit countries" grow increasingly concerned about the corrosive effects of corruption, criminality by illegal immigrants and the tendency of many people in the pipeline to settle along the way.

In a case that exemplified this concern and signaled closer cooperation among the United States and Latin American countries, authorities in Ecuador, Honduras and Costa Rica this month acted on information provided by U.S. agents to break up a major alien-smuggling ring allegedly headed by Gloria Canales, a naturalized Costa Rican originally from Peru.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service also announced a sharp increase in the number of people turned away at the border for trying to enter illegally, to 9,400 from 5,669.

"We're putting a very heavy emphasis on making the system work properly," said Doris M.

Although Congress has turned down Immigration and Naturalization Service requests to fund more "overseas deterrence" initiatives, the agency plans to "shift some resources internally" to add about 15 more agents to offices abroad, the INS commissioner, Doris M. Meissner, said. She added that other efforts include greater information sharing with foreign governments and more diplomatic pressure on host countries "in particular cases."

"Moscow has emerged as a major transit hub with an estimated 200,000 illegal aliens in temporary residence at any time," the report says. Among them are an estimated 60,000 Chinese and up to 40,000 South Asians, mainly Indians, most of them awaiting passage to the United States via Latin America and Europe, the study says.

All seven countries of Central America have been used to funnel people to the United States, often through Mexico. The annual traffic includes an estimated 100,000 people from outside the region and 200,000 to 300,000 Central Americans, the report says. Guatemala, in particular, has become a regional center.

Similarly, the Caribbean has developed into a major source of illegal migrants, with the Dominican Republic as "the key port country."

In China, where alien-smuggling has become highly organized, trafficking gangs move up to 50,000 people a year to the United States at fees of up to \$35,000 each, the study says.

Most arrive by commercial aircraft in small groups with fraudulent documents. Thousands of others are smuggled aboard ships, the report says.

vision lights, satellite hookups, media kits and public relations personnel.

A scientist with data he cannot share is like child with a present he cannot open. At the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the California Institute of Technology, both in Pasadena, and the Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California, planetary scientists are squirming with impatience, unable to unveil what one called "57 minutes of unique, glorious data."

"It is certainly frustrating for the scientists who have waited so long," said Torrence V. Johnson, a Galileo project scientist who was among those who first proposed the mission 20 years ago.

In recent weeks, the Galileo project scientists have been analyzing the first comprehensive look into the turbulent atmosphere of the solar system's largest planet — beamed back by the probe Dec. 7.

The need to keep silent is especially

## Record Set for Deported Aliens

## Criminals Account Mainly for U.S. Rise

By Steven A. Holmes  
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Responding to a rising tide of anti-immigration sentiment, the Clinton administration has announced that the number of illegal aliens deported this year was a record 51,600, up 15 percent from 1994 and by nearly 75 percent from 1990.

Most of the increase came from deportations of criminals who are illegal aliens. Nearly 62 percent of those deported this year were persons expelled after serving prison sentences, up from 52.6 percent in 1991 and 4 percent in 1986.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service also announced a sharp increase in the number of people turned away at the border for trying to enter illegally, to 9,400 from 5,669.

"We're putting a very heavy emphasis on making the system work properly," said Doris M.

government's longest as it headed toward the two-week mark, has slowed or halted activities at nine cabinet departments and 38 agencies, commissions and boards. About 280,000 federal employees are on furlough and 480,000 have been kept at work at the unfunded departments to provide emergency or critical services.

The president met briefly with budget director Alice M. Rivlin, but Mr. Clinton's top budget negotiator, the White House chief of staff, Leon E. Panetta, was not due back from vacation until late Thursday.

"Why are these guys in Congress getting paid?" These people should be held accountable," said George Souris of Rockville, Maryland, a 19-year Immigration and Naturalization Service employee on furlough. "If I'm not getting paid, these people shouldn't be getting paid. It doesn't make any sense."

The shutdown, by far the

longest as it

headed toward the two-week

mark, has slowed or halted activities at nine cabinet departments and 38 agencies, commissions and boards. About 280,000 federal employees are on furlough and 480,000 have been kept at work at the unfunded departments to provide emergency or critical services.

Although no count has been taken, budget office officials estimate that 200,000 to 250,000 private-sector contract employees — such as computer technicians and building guards — work for companies that will not receive contract payments or will have the contracts stopped. Last year, the agencies now closed spent about \$15 billion on service contracts, according to the budget office.

The shutdown seems likely to spill over into next month.

The worry about half-full paychecks increased this week when Clinton administration officials said it seemed virtually certain that the 760,000 employees caught in the shutdown would start the New Year with half a paycheck.

The warning appeared to catch a number of employees by surprise, particularly at the Justice Department, which is operating without a fiscal 1996 appropriation but has kept almost all FBI agents, Drug Enforcement Administration investigators and federal prison guards on duty. Justice Department employees complained that they were not notified until about 4 P.M. Tuesday that they would receive pay only for the time they worked before the shutdown began Dec. 16.

"They are furious about this," said Victor Obojski, president of the 11,000-member Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association. "We have a lot of agents that have their mortgages taken right out of their paychecks. That one week of pay isn't going to cut it for car payments, mortgages and ex-wives."

In the meantime, the scientists are swapping data on the Internet and preparing formal research papers for peer-reviewed publication in coming months.

Earlier this week, NASA mission engineers successfully re-established contact with the main Galileo orbiter, from which the 757-pound (344-kilogram) atmospheric probe was launched, as it emerged from behind the sun.

The most important thing to realize is, as with other essential services, the Galileo mission is safe," Mr. Johnson said. "The data is being collected. The critical people are all ensuring the mission is working."

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## EUROPE

# French Officers in UN Force Reported to Have Been Tortured by Bosnia Serbs

By Barry James  
*International Herald Tribune*

PARIS — Long before the shooting down and subsequent mistreatment of two French pilots in August, Bosnian Serbian troops had tortured, beaten and humiliated a captured French lieutenant in front of his men, a newspaper reported Thursday.

The French soldiers were among 350 UN hostages of different nationalities captured earlier this year following NATO air strikes on Bosnian Serbian positions.

France has said nothing about the reported degrading treatment and torture meted out to the officer, and the Ministry of Defense

declined to comment on the article Thursday by the Sarajevo correspondent of the Paris newspaper *Le Figaro*, Eric Biégala.

He reported that the Bosnian Serbs:

- Made the lieutenant put on a Bosnian Serb uniform and then kneel in the line of fire of Bosnian Muslim snipers.

- Made him undergo a mock execution in front of his companions watching from an observation post 50 meters away.

- Allowed him to be insulted by the widow of a Bosnian Serbian soldier killed in fighting, and then plunged the lieutenant's face into the dead man's entrails.

*Le Figaro* identified the officer only as Lieutenant Bouraisin.

Mr. Biégala said that the Bosnian Serbs also beat up a black soldier serving in the French Army to try to make him confess he was a Muslim.

The 12 French soldiers were manning an observation post on the Vrbanja Bridge in Sarajevo on May 27 when they were outnumbered and overrun by Bosnian Serbs.

The post was later recaptured by the French after a brief firefight, and negotiations began for an exchange of prisoners.

Meanwhile, the French prisoners were held in a building on the front line where they were beaten, insulted, tortured and subjected to mock executions. Mr. Biégala reported.

When they were eventually released at

the end of June, the men were in a state of shock and had to be given several days of rest. Mr. Biégala said they were sworn to secrecy about their experience.

Still, at the time, the commander of the Fourth French Battalion in Sarajevo, Lieutenant Colonel Eric Roussel, identified the Serbs taking part in the hostage-taking as regular units under orders from superiors.

Some of those who gave and undertook the orders to humiliate the French were still in place in Sarajevo, and the French authorities still need to deal with them to implement the NATO peace plan for Bosnia. *Le Figaro* said this may be one of the reasons why the French are so anxious

to prevent news about the mistreatment of their men from receiving publicity.

The Defense Ministry has acknowledged that the two French pilots, Captain Frédéric Chiffot and Lieutenant José Souvignet, were subjected to "very tough psychological pressure," and that they received "brutal" treatment from the local population after their Mirage 2000 fighter was shot down during a bombing raid Aug. 30.

But a ministry spokesman denied that the two officers had been ordered to change their testimony to conform to an agreed version of the event.

According to French defense sources, the psychological pressure included death

threats, mock executions, deprivation of food, the withholding of information and frequent changes of place of imprisonment.

The pilots were held by men loyal to the Bosnian Serbian military leader, General Ratko Mladić, who is under UN indictment for war crimes. He was reported to have been present during an operation to set the broken leg of Lieutenant Souvignet.

Both men were injured when they fell badly on rocky terrain after ejecting from their stricken plane.

Although they have not spoken of their ordeal, the father of Captain Chiffot, a retired military officer, confirmed that his son had been beaten.

## French Strikers Are Forced Out Of Mail Center

Reuters

PARIS — Riot police on Thursday removed striking postal workers from a mail sorting center in Caen in Normandy that they had occupied for a month. French radio said.

The report said the strikers left the building without resistance when the police arrived at about 2 A.M. and towed away three vehicles that blocked the entrance.

The police gathered 600,000 letters and packages that had piled up at the center, which employs 300 people.

The strikers were demanding extra staff and employment security for workers on temporary contracts.

They began their protest during a three-week nationwide public transport strike that ended just before Christmas.



ALL TOGETHER — City drivers towing a bus on a Marseille street Thursday on the 22d day of a wage protest.

## Nationalist General to Seek Russian Presidency

Reuters

MOSCOW — A prominent former Russian Army commander, General Alexander I. Lebed, entered the race for the Kremlin on Thursday in a powerful potential challenge to President Boris N. Yeltsin.

Aides said that the 45-year-old retired general had been endorsed by leaders of his nationalist Congress of Russian Communities as the party's candidate for the June 16 pres-

idential election. "I can confirm this," Sersafim Yushkov, the party's press chief, said.

General Lebed, a gruff populist who resigned last year after clashing repeatedly with the Kremlin, is a sharp critic of Mr. Yeltsin and the war in Chechnya. He has won a strong popular following for his defense of the interests of ethnic Russians in the former Soviet republics.

But his party stumbled badly in the Dec. 17 parliamentary

election, failing to win the 5 percent of the vote necessary to win seats in the State Duma on a party basis.

General Lebed, however, had no problem winning a seat in an individual constituency.

Mr. Yushkov said by telephone that General Lebed had won endorsement at a meeting of his party's leadership, and that final approval of his candidacy would come at a party congress next month.

The general, an Afghan War veteran and former commander of Russian forces in a breakaway region of Moldova, said Thursday that he saw Mr. Yeltsin and the ultranationalist politician Vladimir V. Zhirinovsky as his main rivals for the presidency, the Interfax news agency reported.

Other presidential candidates are expected to include Gennadi Zyuganov — whose Communist Party outpaced all

rivals in the parliamentary poll, winning about 158 of the Duma's 450 seats — and the liberal economist Grigori Yavlinsky, whose Yabloko bloc won 45 Duma seats.

Mr. Yeltsin, 64, who is recovering from heart trouble, has said he will not announce until February whether he will seek re-election.

If he does not run, Prime Minister Viktor S. Chernomyrdin, whose Our Home is Russia bloc won 54 Duma seats, may run instead.

In the race for the Duma, General Lebed campaigned for his Congress of Russian Communities on a law-and-order and "social justice" platform with nationalist overtones.

Ratings have consistently made him personally more popular than the party itself, whose unclear political message made relatively little impression on the electorate.

Individual personalities rather than party policies are expected to carry most weight in the presidential poll.

Although General Lebed's tough talk on law-and-order has struck a popular chord, he has said little about the economy.

## Conservatives Clash Over Turkish Leadership

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ANKARA — Efforts to forestall an Islamic government in Turkey ran into trouble on Thursday as the leaders of the two main secular parties clashed over who should head an alternative coalition.

"Ciller's True Path Party is insisting on Ciller's prime ministry, their insistence is unacceptable for our part," said Mesut Yilmaz, leader of the center-right Muharrem Party.

He was referring to the outgoing prime minister, Tansu Ciller, who heads the country's other main conservative force, the True Path Party. Earlier this week, the two parties agreed to bury their differences

and forge a coalition to block the way of the pro-Islamic Welfare Party, which won more Parliament seats than any other party in general elections Sunday.

But personal rivalry between Mr. Yilmaz and Mrs. Ciller is proving to be the main obstacle in the search for a stable majority in the 550-seat legislature.

On Wednesday, Mr. Yilmaz said he was ready to become prime minister, but he added that if Mrs. Ciller blocked him the erstwhile allies should make way for a third party to take the leadership.

Necmettin Erbakan's Welfare Party won 158 seats, falling well short of a majority.

Traditionally the president names as

prime minister the leader of the party with the most seats in Parliament, but in the absence of likely coalition partners, Mr. Erbakan's chances of becoming prime minister are small.

Final unofficial election results released Wednesday showed the True Path Party with 135 seats, the Motherland Party 131, the Democratic Left Party 76, and the Republican People's Party 50.

Meanwhile, the army reaffirmed its support for a secular state. "The Turkish armed forces are a reformist, unshakable power against any kind of fanaticism," said the chief of staff, General Ismail Hakkı Karadayı, at a ceremony in Kayseri. (AFP, AP)

## Autopsies Show Murder And Suicide by Cultists

Reuters

GRENoble, France — The prosecutor investigating the deaths of 16 people who were members of the Order of the Solar Temple said he hoped his investigation would mean that the sect's second murder-suicide ritual would be the last.

The French prosecutor, Jean-François Lorans, said autopsies showed that 14 people, including three children, were tortured and shot point blank with a .22 caliber rifle by two other cult members, one of whom was a police officer. Those two then killed themselves with revolvers.

Of the 14 bodies laid out in ritual star shape, 11 adults had been shot through the head and heart and three children each had been killed with a single bullet through the forehead.

All had apparently been

stabbed and shot in their sleep.

The two other bodies had police revolvers near their right

hands. The clothes of all had been set on fire.

Mr. Lorans first said the apparent murderers were two French policemen who were members of the group. But he later said one of the policemen was among those who had been shot with a rifle. He said the investigation would look for possible accomplices.

The charred bodies were found Saturday in an Alpine forest clearing, a week after they died.

The apparent mix of murder and suicide mirrored last year's ritual in which 53 members of the Swiss sect died in Switzerland and Canada, many bodies bearing bullet wounds.

Mr. Lorans, who has opened an inquiry into "murders and a criminal group," said investigations were being mounted in France, Switzerland and other countries in an effort to keep the ritual from being repeated.

"An in-depth investigation into these murders can allow us to know better the sect's environment, its intentions, its plans and — I hope, but it is not certain — avoid the repeat of such a tragedy," he said.

Mr. Lorans said that the bodies had yet to be formally identified but that there were "certain convergences" with a list of 16 missing sect members. He said the dead were likely to include Patrick Vuarnet, his mother, Edith; his female companion and her 6-year-old daughter, Tanya, and the two children of one of the police officers, Jean-Pierre Lardanchet.

Calls to ban such sects are mounting in France. But politicians note that a ban would infringe on religious freedom.

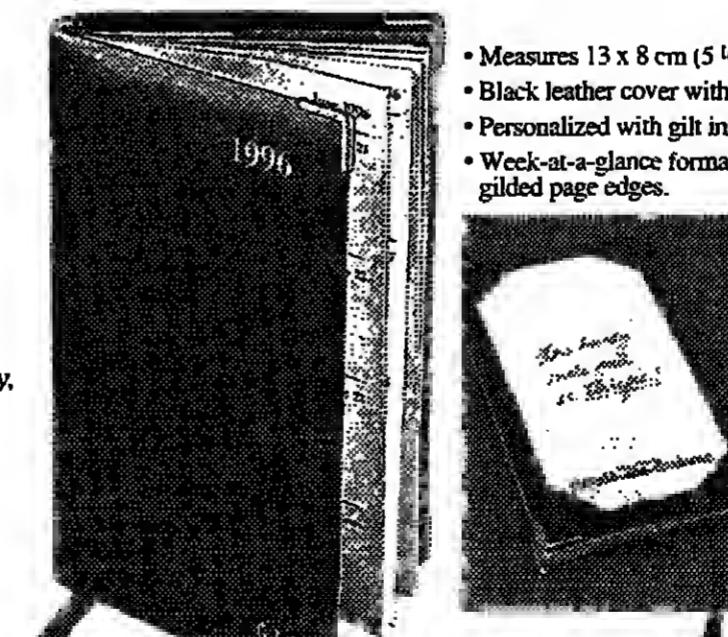
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## OPINION/LETTERS

## Predictions for 1996: Whitewater, Bosnia and Diana's Best-Seller

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Only two picks right last year, a record for the 22-year history of this much-inflated pool of predictions for the next year; now let's go for a clean sweep:

1. The Whitewater affair will (a) spawn a scathing Senate report titled "Doubting Thomas"; (b) be a fizzle with no new independent counsel convictions; (c) reveal petty crimes in Arkansas and serious wrongdoing in Washington; (d) be concluded by a post-election presidential pardon of Webster Hubbell, the disgraced associate attorney general; and any others indicted or convicted, except Hillary Rodham Clinton.

2. The American economy will (a) sail serenely onward and upward; (b) run into recession-deflation fears and a 10 percent drop in the market; (c) grow under 2 percent for three quarters, then boom, with the Dow breaking 6,000.

3. Dividing the Republican convention will be (a) aborting the abortion plank; (b) renouncing affirmative action; (c) going nativist on immigration; (d) term limits; (e) ban on assault weapons.

4. Political summer of the year will be (a) abandonment of the Republican Party by women; (b) abandonment of the Democratic Party by blacks; (c) stay-home revolt of the angry white geezers; (d) waning of the third-party movement.

5. Longest lines on a celebrity book tour will be for (a) Mrs. Clinton's "Politics and Parenting"; (b) Diana's "Windsors and Losers: My Battle Royal"; (c) O. J. Simpson's "Confessions."

6. Nobel Peace Prize will go to (a) Irish peacemakers; (b) Shimon Peres of Israel and Hafez Assad of Syria; (c) Secretary of State Warren Christopher; (d) Wei Jing-shen in jail.

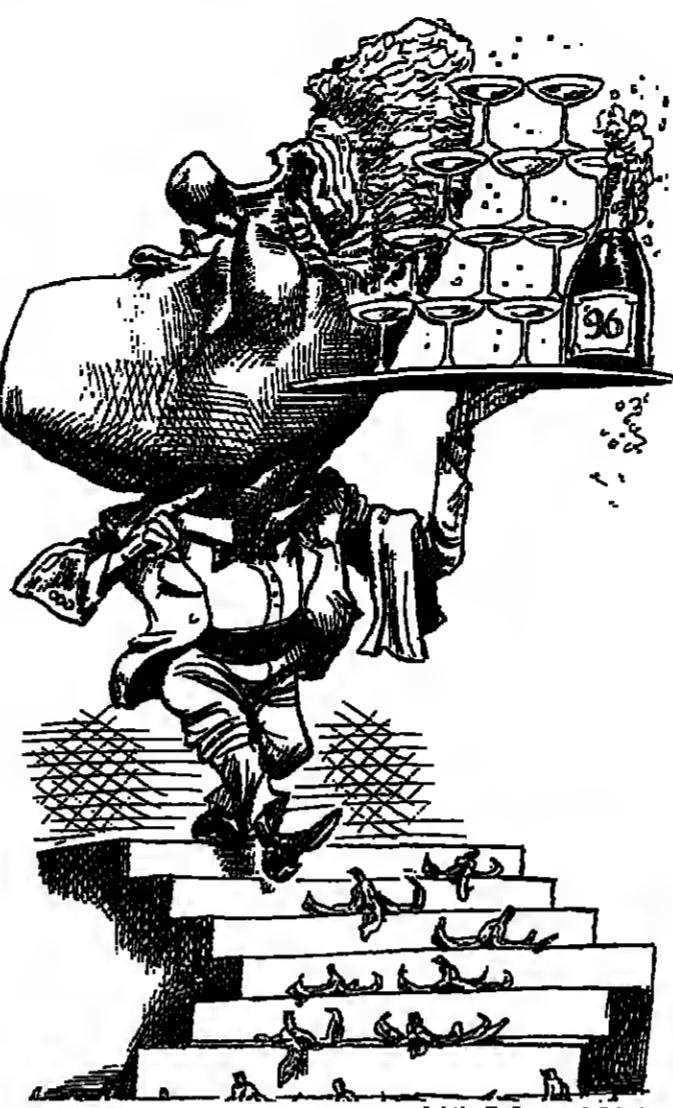
7. Hollywood will blunt cultural criticism by giving Academy Awards to (a) Jane Austen's and Emma Thompson's "Sense and Sensibility"; (b) Barry Sonnenfeld's "Get Shorty"; (c) Edward Burns's "The Brothers McMullen"; (d) Oliver Stone's emotionally true "How JPK, LBJ and Nixon Did It in Vince Foster."

8. Republican ticket will be (a) Senator Bob Dole and Governor Christine Todd Whitman of New Jersey; (b) Mr. Dole and General Colin Powell; (c) Mr. Dole and Senator Sam Nunn, Democrat of Georgia; (d) Lamar Alexander and Senator Richard G. Lugar of Indiana.

9. Biggest 1996 election upset will be in (a) Russia, where the Communists won't win; (b) Israel, where Mr. Peres won't win; (c) America, where President Bill Clinton won't win.

10. In congressional races, (a) the mellowing of the speaker, Newt Gingrich, will result in the retention of a Republican House majority; (b) the demonization of Mr. Gingrich will cost Republicans the House; (c) a Clinton sweep will take the House and narrow the Republican Senate majority; (d) a Dole triumph will result in a White House and Congress dominated by a single party.

*The New York Times.*



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Oil's Responsibility

Regarding "Big Oil Should Face What It Sows" by Jim Hoagland (Opinion, Dec. 2):

Contrary to Mr. Hoagland's assertion, "Big Oil" is not a world citizen — whatever the nebulous term may signify. Those Western oil

companies he condemns for not doing more about Nigeria's execution of the writer Ken Saro-Wiwa are commercial enterprises producing an irreplaceable component of industrial economies. That is what they are intended to do and it is on those terms alone that we must assess them. To rely upon a commer-

cial agent to punish the Nigerians is neither tactically advisable nor strategically sound. We, the citizenry of countries who are outraged, must prevail upon the agents most suitable for punishing the Nigerian regime: our own governments.

GREGORY J. H. DOWLING  
Oakham, England.

## An Austrian Poet

Regarding "Too Bad, Moneybags, Maastricht Criteria Are Out of Season" (Opinion, Dec. 14) by Guido Brunner:

Mr. Brunner incorrectly de-

scribes the poet Ingeborg Bachmann ("Chiller days are coming") as German. Mrs. Bachmann, one of the most important writers of our time, was born in Klagenfurt, Austria and always was Austrian.

EVA NOWOTNY

Paris.

*The writer is the Austrian am-*  
*bassador to France.*

## Nourished on Cynicism, Baby Boomers Turn 50

By Richard Harwood

WASHINGTON — Cheryl Russell, writing in American Demographics magazine, alerts us to a forthcoming news media extravaganza starting Jan. 1, 1996. That is the date on which the first 7,745 of 78 million baby boomers turn 50. By year's end, 3.4 million will have reached that age, and by the year 2005 baby boomers will represent a majority of the American population aged 50 to 74.

We can thus expect stories and

## MEANWHILE

introspective essays galore. The boomers already are the most celebrated generation in our history. That is because there are so many of them, because they are a generation "entirely unlike older generations of Americans." Ms. Russell writes, "both in attitudes and lifestyles" and because the ringmasters of the news media are themselves boomers with a self-conscious and understandable interest in delineating how far they have come and where they are going now.

This is the time in their lives when they are concerned about putting kids through college, the time when a lot of divorces are likely to occur, the time when they are at or nearing the peak of their earning powers, when they are beginning to worry more about their careers and their health, the time to start thinking about retirement.

They are the first generation to have grown up with television, and have become the most affluent and educated cohort of Americans in history. As they reach this new milestone of middle age, the newspapers have a particular interest in them as customers. We are, in a manner of speaking, holding our breath in the hope that with the graying of this generation they and their children will find newspapers relevant to their lives. We worry, too, that the "negativism" and "tobolism" of the press have turned them off.

People with the most money and education buy the most newspapers. *The Washington Post.*

The boomers rank high on both counts and behave as expected, buying more newspapers than other age groups. But measured in terms of household penetration, the numbers are not encouraging. Thirty years ago, more than 80 percent of Americans 35 to 54 read a paper on an average weekday; the percentage today is 65 percent.

The attitudes of the boomers — shaped, many believe, by the news media — may have something to do with this. They grew up in an era in which many of the old certitudes of American life have been shaken by social and economic upheavals, including a loss of status and economic position by the middle class and by corrosive racial and gender divisiveness. This seems to have produced among the boomers cynicism and distrust toward almost all of the institutions of our society.

The press is often blamed for this state of affairs. It is dominated by members of the baby boom generation who, as would be expected, share many of the attitudes of their contemporaries — cynicism, disaffection and suspicion of American social and political institutions.

But we should not make too much of that. The nature of journalism has been the enemy of idealism and the source of cynicism among American reporters and editors throughout our history. They come face to face daily with disasters and wars, murderers, thieves, rapists, embezzlers, corruption, lies, hypocrisy and betrayal.

For all that, however, they retain a good deal of the idealism and optimism of earlier days. This is especially true of national journalists. The majority, postscript report, believe that officials in Washington, executives, clergymen and military leaders are basically honest and ethical people. Their instincts are far less negative than the populace at large.

We can give thanks for that while asking ourselves if "they," meaning "average Americans," are too prone to whine about things as they are or if these people know something about life that we do not.

*The Washington Post.*

## INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED

## PERSONALS

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# Diamonds and Debutantes: Waltzing the Night Away at Vienna Balls

By Mariana Schroeder

**V**IENNA — A gray drizzle had settled over Vienna as we squeezed into the last parking place in front of the Alstadt Vienna. Mr. Hirsch, part butler, part concierge and the soul of the hotel, deposited our suitcases in a tiny room on the ground floor and apologized profusely that he was unable to give us a larger room upstairs. Like most of the city's hotels, the Alstadt was fully booked for the Vienna Opera Ball weekend.

The Opera Ball was the first of three we planned to attend during our weekend in Vienna last February.

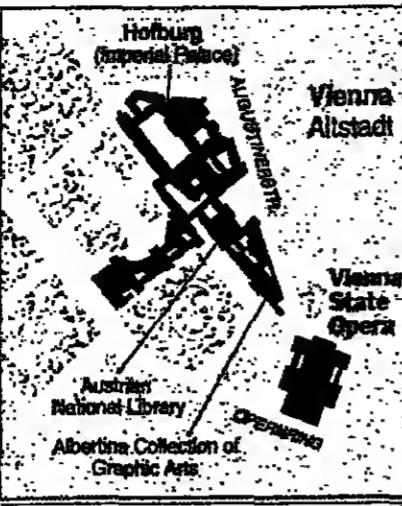
Each year nearly 5,000 paying guests and more than 1,500 members of the ball staff and opera company attend the Opera Ball, a tradition that has its roots in the 19th century. It is a celebration of the waltz and the Viennese way of life, with profits going toward next year's event.

The Austrian capital holds more than 300 balls every year. In season — from just before Christmas to just after Easter — there is a ball almost every night of the week and, on some nights, three or four. Every profession holds its own: the Policemen's Ball, the Taxi Drivers' Ball, the Confectioners' Ball. Some are private, open only to members, but most are open to the public, and everyone with a ticket, a ball gown and black or white tie is welcome.

The Vienna State Opera had been transformed overnight. In less than 36 hours, 350 workers had removed the seats, built additional boxes, laid a parquet dance floor and created a summer garden with lilac trees and balconies draped in pink carnations.

Liveried footmen stood at the entrance where guests were ascending the marble staircase. We checked our coats and watched the celebrities — Shirley MacLaine, Plácido Domingo, Birgit Nilsson, to name a few — before joining the procession to the mezzanine, where all the boxes are.

The most formal and elegant of the season, the Opera Ball is mainly for debutantes. One hundred and eighty couples, chosen from the 800 who apply, form the Opening Committee of debutantes and spend nearly a year drilling for the opening quadrille. The dress code is as rigid as the dance steps: long white gowns and iden-



tical rhinestone crowns for the debutantes and white tie and tails for their escorts; mouse gray for the gentlemen in uniform, tails and floor-length evening gowns for everyone else. Jewels are brought out of safes or borrowed from discreet jewelers by the celebrated, and many Viennese meo trot out their red and white sashes and Imperial decorations.

The ball opens with a trumpet fanfare followed by two ballet sequences danced by the ballet corps of the Vienna Opera. The debutantes and their escorts then enter from the stage into the ballroom and dance the quadrille. Those without box seats line the ballroom or buy additional standing room tickets for the backstage area. We decided to avoid the crowd and get a bird's-eye view from the balcony — the best place to be at the opening and the only place to view the intricate patterns of the quadrille.

Shortly after, the music stopped and two words boomed out of the loudspeakers: "Alles Walzer!" At that moment the ballroom shifted into a kaleidoscope of color as thousands of couples began to whirl to the one-two-three rhythm they learned as children.

Several orchestras and bands provided the nonstop music. The opening fanfare was played by the brass ensemble of the opera's orchestra. The Vienna Opera Ball Orchestra, dedicated to preserving and playing Viennese dance music of the 19th century, was in the main ballroom, alternating with Axel Rot and his orchestra, a popular dance band.

It took us more than half an hour to make our way down stairs to the ballroom. When we finally got there the dance floor was so crowded we could barely move. Most of Vienna seemed to be at the ball. They paid the equivalent of \$265 to get in and an additional \$9.60 to nearly \$17,000 for a box, calculated at a rate of 9.92 schillings to \$1. A table for six in one of the outlying rooms costs \$1,000.

Dressing rooms, backstage areas, even the catacombs of the opera filled up with

balgoers. In the basement a disco, with music arranged by a popular radio station, catered to the waltz weary, and the employee canteen served beer at \$4.90 a half pint for those who found the price of \$300 to \$400 for a bottle of Champagne upstairs a bit too high. The result was a mixture of glamour and grunge, designer gowns and family jewels rubbing shoulders with polyester and recycled bridesmaid's dresses. Celebrities come to be seen and rarely leave the safety of their boxes. But the rest come to waltz. And once the VIPs have departed, the opera belongs to them. They are the ones who dance until 6 A.M. and then adjourn to cafés and hotels that open early to serve an after-the-ball breakfast of beer and goulash soup.

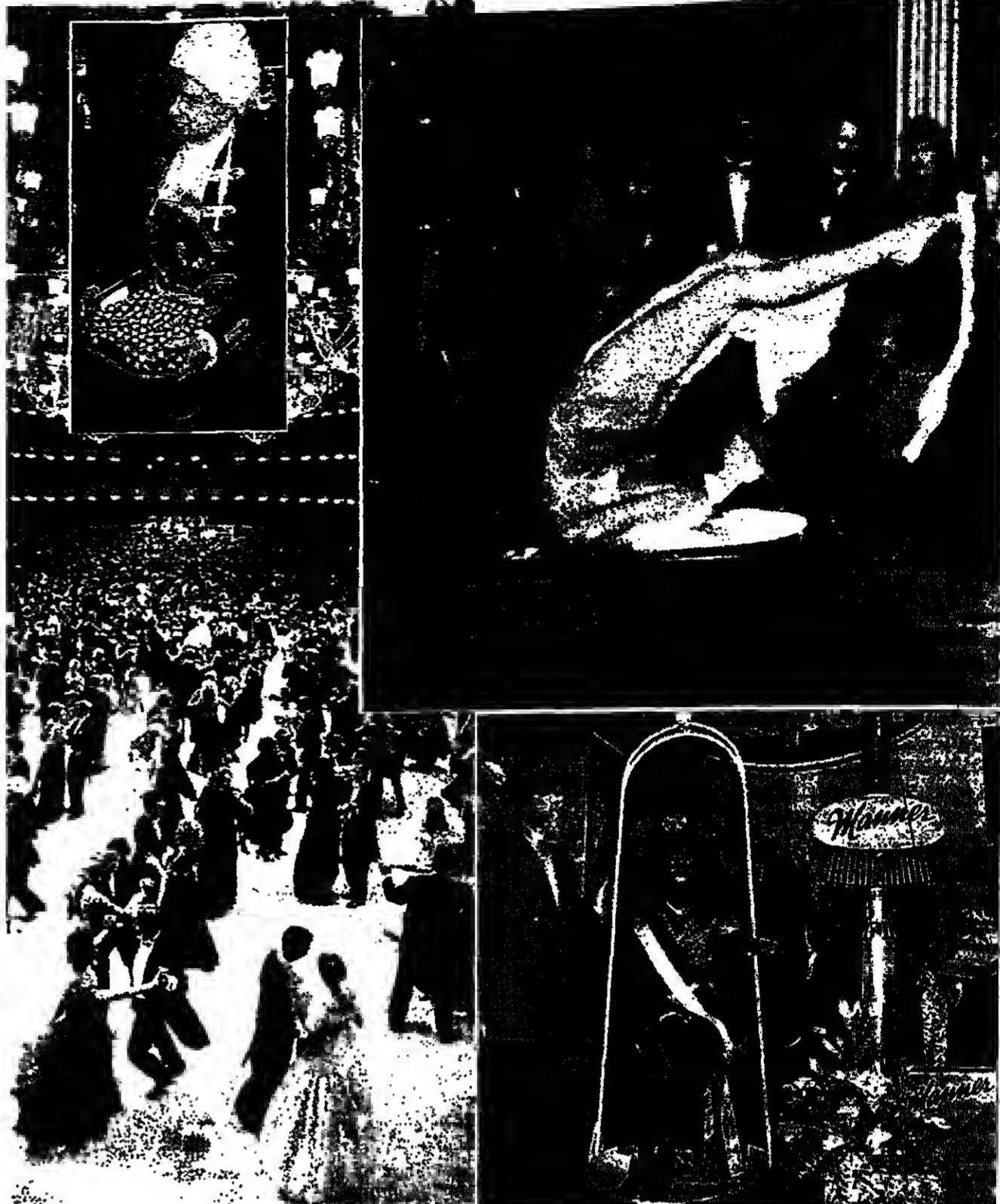
Our second ball — the Bonbon — is held by the Stusswarenhändler, or candy and sweets dealers of Austria — not to be confused with the confectioners, who hold theirs later. The Konzerthaus, a concert hall dating from 1912-13, was transformed into several ballrooms, each with its own orchestra. The decorations, which paled in comparison to those at the Opera Ball, consisted mainly of potted palms, flowers borrowed from the city greenhouses and a revolving mirrored globe in the main ballroom. Candy makers advertised their products with displays and signs placed among the potted azaleas and wilted carnations.

The balgoers (about 4,500) were, on the whole, much younger and less expensively dressed, and the event far more local; most of the guests seemed to know one another, making it difficult for outsiders like us to mingle. As at most balls in Vienna, the ticket to the Bonbon Ball (\$46) gets you through the door and nothing else. Tables are additional. Refreshments tend to be liquid, with snack foods and light courses. The Viennese practice of eating before the ball, not during, made particular sense here.

The Magicians Ball, our last, at the Vienna Hilton, was a relaxed, relatively small affair, with no more than 1,000 guests. About half the men wore tuxedos instead of tails. There were fewer waltzes and more sambas and disco music, fewer diamonds and more sequins.

More than 100 magicians from all over the world performed at the ball. Each ballroom had its own orchestra and stage where the magicians performed on a rotating basis between dances. We had decided to spring for a table. For \$41 we sat on the sidelines of the main ballroom where we could watch the show, sip a glass of wine and relax between dances. At 3 A.M., having watched at least 40 wonderful magicians and danced two cha-chas and about a dozen waltzes, we wandered out to one of the food stands in the lobby and had hot dogs and goulash soup before returning to the Alstadt.

Mariana Schroeder, a writer who lives in Germany, wrote this for The New York Times.



Photographs by Todd Akin/Associated Press/Redux, Agence France Presse, and AP

Clockwise from top left: a candy server at the Bonbon Ball; Svetlana, the rubber lady from Ukraine, at the Magicians Ball; Miss Bonbon 1995 winning her weight in chocolate, and waltzing at the elegant Opera Ball.

## HEAT THIS

■ AP tells us that a Rolls-Royce with driver for the night in New York on New Year's Eve is \$1,200, up \$200 from last year, tickets to the New York City Ballet's "Nutcracker" are \$6 more at \$140, and the Presidential Suite at the Plaza Hotel is \$15,000 for the night, up \$1,000. Drink up.

Mariana Schroeder, a writer who lives in Germany, wrote this for The New York Times.

## THE MOVIE GUIDE

### Othello

Directed by Oliver Parker.

Kenneth Branagh has the rare ability to deliver Shakespearean dialogue as if it were street talk, with an expert casualness that keeps the meaning of the language crystal clear. Branagh's terrific skill as a popularizer is a boon to the new "Othello," in which he plays an accessible, alarmingly human fago to Laurence Fishburne's voluptuous Moor. Within lago resides the heart of the tragedy, which loses its complexity when the character radiates nothing but evil. Thanks to Branagh's seductively colloquial performance, this time the character's poisonous nature is revealed in full. This "Othello" has been truncated, rearranged and illustrated by its director, Oliver Parker, in unapologetically high-handed ways. But it has also been given a blunt vitality, one

that makes this look like the timeliest of Shakespeare's tragedies.

(Janet Maslin, NYT)

### Sense and Sensibility

Directed by Ang Lee.

Let neither pride nor prejudice dissuade you from the abundant pleasures of "Sense and Sensibility." Based upon Jane Austen's satire of 18th-century dating games, this rapturous romance is not only laugh-out-loud funny but it demonstrates how little humankind has evolved in matters of the heart. Emma Thompson, who plays the sensible Elinor, the eldest of the poor but pretty Dashwood girls of Sussex, also wrote the adaptation. It is her first script and the first non-Chinese project for the Taiwanese director Ang Lee, whose films "Pushing Hands," "The Wedding Banquet" and "Eat Drink Man Woman," like

Austen's novels, expose the comic nuances of love and family life. "Sense and Sensibility," elegantly staged and masterfully acted right down to the smallest role, requires a bit of patience toward the end, as the outcome becomes increasingly obvious. But what romantic comedy does not broadcast its good intentions well in advance? And Austen — the great-great-grandmother of the genre — would doubtless have it no other way.

(Rita Kempley, WP)

### Dracula: Dead and Loving It

Directed by Mel Brooks.

The title "Dracula: Dead and Loving It" is so perfect that it's almost a good-will ambassador for Mel Brooks's slight but amusing new parody. Brooks may no longer be at the forefront of silly comedy, but he's still laying on the genre gags, horrible

puns and enigma references with dependable good cheer. It's hard to resist a vampire film in which someone says: "Yes, we have Nosferatu. We have Nosferatu today."

Brooks has recruited the ever-sporting Leslie Nielsen to play a charmingly dim Dracula and give this film the feeling of an undead "Naked Gun." Brooks also has fun with an accent since he casts himself as the very Teutonic Dr. Van Helsing, who says "smeek" for "attacked." Brooks and Nielsen are clearly on the same wavelength, which makes this Van Helsing just fine as Dracula's nemesis.

(Janet Maslin, NYT)

### Cry, the Beloved Country

Directed by Darrell James Roodt.

The first major film to be made in the newly democratic South Africa, "Cry, the

Beloved Country" carries a heavy sense of its own historic weight. The movie, directed by Darrell James Roodt, is an exercise in solemness uplift that is touching despite an atmosphere that at moments becomes stiffly reverential.

In adapting Alan Paton's classic 1948 novel for the screen, Roodt, the young South African filmmaker, who directed "Stripling," and his screenwriter Ronald Harwood have remained faithful to the book, while using the cinematography and music to add a romantic gloss. The two central performances in the film are strikingly different in style. James Earl Jones's Rev. Dr. Van Kukula is a sad, plodding bulldog of a man, the weight of Job bowing his shoulders. Richard Harris's James Jarvis, alarmingly gaunt, with yellowish white hair, trembling lips and an eagle's glare, is flamboyantly volatile. Beneath the haughty aristocratic facade lies a spoiled, hot-tempered crybaby.

(Stephen Holden, NYT)

### Cutthroat Island

Directed by Renny Harlin.

It's cutthroat time at the movies, all right, when the end of the year brings a stampede of bloated entertainments no one wants to see. Suicidal case in point: "Cutthroat Island," this winter's "Waterworld," which stars Thailand, Malta, two canon-firing pirate ships, one monkey and Geena Davis as a pirate queen. It's not possible to believe that Davis is the captain of a pirate ship, and it's not even fun to try. "Cutthroat Island" is too stupidly smutty for children, too cartoonish for some adults and not racy enough for anyone who regards Davis in a tight-laced bodice as its main attraction.

(Janet Maslin, NYT)



Leslie Nielsen as the Count and Amy Yasbeck as Mina in Mel Brooks's "Dracula: Dead and Loving It."

## BOOKS

### JOURNEY TO MY FATHER, ISAAC BASHEVIS SINGER

By Israel Zamir. Translated by Barbara Harshav. Illustrated. 240 pages. \$21.95. Arcade Publishing.

Reviewed by Richard Eder

In 1935, the writer Isaac Bashevis Singer abandoned his wife and little son in Warsaw, came to New York, and eventually remarried. Twenty years later the son sailed from Israel to see him. It was not out of love, Israel Zamir writes, but curiosity and a need to "close the circle."

"Journey to My Father, Isaac Bashevis Singer," an awkward, revealing and sometimes bewitching book, closes nothing. Instead it circles and circles like a conjuring dance, one that lasted for the next three decades until Singer's death in 1991. What is conjured up is the son's fury, pain and enchantment with the elusive old magician he can neither quite forgive nor give up.

Zamir's ship gets into New York on a winter midnight. It is 14 hours late, he is not sure what his father looks like and he sees

cooboy who might resemble him. Finally, he spots a man with reddish hair, waiting uncertainly. "Might you be Mr. Singer?" the young man asks. "I might." "Is it possible that you're my father?" "It's possible," the other replies, and he adds:

"Everything's possible. You never know if your pranks from bygone times didn't produce a son who'll pop up suddenly from across the ocean and demand his share of the inheritance."

Israel storms off. Twenty years of a bitterly endured abandonment have summoned up precisely the figure he'd imagined, precisely the kind of sardonic apparition that anger, jealousy, lust or revenge invoke in a Singer tale — except that Singer would have added an additional twist. The real father — pale, diffident, uncommunicative — is waiting outside, and father and son take a taxi, almost in silence, to Singer's apartment on the Upper West side.

"Journey" records that silent taxi ride. It goes on to record 35 years of encounters, sporadic companionship and considerable collaboration — Zamir translated a number of his father's works from Yiddish

to Hebrew — and a tentative friendship. But the son never quite got close. How do you get close to a writer like Singer? You become one of his characters.

A Communist at the time, member of a far-left kibbutz, a brawny, athletic, make-the-desert-flower Israeli, Zamir — who as an adolescent tore up the few letters Singer sent — is everything his pale, unflinching, and Zamir is too proud to ask for one. Penniless, Zamir is left to his own resources, apart from an occasional dollar his father would hand out.

The first visit came close to

being a second abandonment. Zamir wakes up in the apartment the next morning "empty of feeling." He sees his father come out of the bathroom, thin legs and feet protruding from an old brown bathrobe, and sit down to write "without a word." Singer is wary, as if fearing any demand on time, on money, on history. Never does he offer an apology for running off and remarrying, and Zamir is too proud to ask for one. Penniless, Zamir is left to his own resources, apart from an occasional dollar his father would hand out.

Over the next three decades there are visits back and forth between Israel and New York, his father tugging at my sleeve, whispered:

"My father, tugging at my sleeve, whispered: 'The world can beat anything.'"

Ongoing and far better known, LJ. was Isaac's devoted patron and protector; it was he who brought him to New York

and found work for him. He would show Isaac his manuscripts — all this comes from LJ's widow, whom Zamir meets by chance — while the latter secreted his own. He also secreted any resentment he may have felt, but in a letter Isaac asserts that LJ's writing had deteriorated; as for himself, "My vision is better."

There are glimpses of Isaac in his Upper Broadway neighborhood, feeding the pigeons that would fly down. A policeman tells him to stop; the next day the policeman apologetically hands him a book to autograph. "If a New York police officer can be strained and sometimes clumsy. His anecdotal portrait of Singer, on the other hand, is precious, comic and with an occasional touch of the alarming.

Speaking of himself, Zamir writes: "I had managed to 'build' a father for myself," Zamir writes; but over and over, amid anecdote and recollection, he brings up that occasional dollar. The father points out years later that he was paid for the trip, after all. But with blocked Israeli currency, the son retorts. He named him as his translator, says Singer. To save money, says Zamir. He bought a cot and mattress for him to sleep on, Singer protests. Father and son fade; the fabulist Isaac Bashevis Singer takes possession.

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Years later, though, during the 1967 war in Israel, Singer and Zamir joined a line waiting to give money to the United Jewish Appeal. Some wept; it was not immediately clear whether Israel would survive. The world can not bear another Auschwitz, a rabbi standing in a realistic fashion quite opposite to Isaac's wry and erotic mysticism.

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## INTERNATIONAL

## Israeli Says Talks Will Take 'Weeks'

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

JERUSALEM — Foreign Minister Ehud Barak of Israel cautioned Thursday against expecting peace talks with Syria to produce an immediate agreement.

"You have to expect that these talks will not provide rapid results and that difficulties will arise," he told Israeli radio as Israeli and Syrian negotiations began the second day of an initial three-day round of negotiations at a retreat in tide-water Maryland.

"I don't think the talks will provide results before several weeks," he said.

Earlier Thursday, the minister in charge of the peace process, Yossi Beilin, praised the "favorable" start to the new negotiations with Syria.

But Mr. Barak noted that "We still don't know if the Syrians intend to propose a real peace," insisting that if Damascus does not agree to "arrangements ensuring the security of Israel, there will not be any agreement."

The Israeli and Syrian negotiators are due to return home after the opening round and then gather again next week at the Wye Plantation on Maryland's Eastern Shore for a second three-day round.

The central issue in the negotiations is the return of the Golan Heights, which Israel seized during the 1967 war.

Previous bilateral talks have broken down over the issue of security guarantees for Israel surrounding any return of the Golan, but the latest negotiations have broadened their focus to include normalization of economic and political relations, water-sharing and regional peace.

### DRUG: Thalidomide's Comeback

Continued from Page 1

should not be kept from those with the disease because of a tragedy 30 years ago.

"It's very generational," said Sally Cooper, executive director of the People With Aids Health Group, a Manhattan organization that helps sufferers acquire experimental drugs. "You talk to people who saw the pictures in Life magazine in 1962 and that's a very different response that someone who's 20 or 25. I think America's sort of over thalidomide."

From 1959 to 1962, thalidomide, a powerful sedative promoted as being so safe even pregnant women could use it, was one of the world's wonder drugs. Only the United States

refused to license it pending further research on side effects. Thus, of the estimated 10,000 thalidomide babies born in the early 1960s, only a handful were American, mostly the children of soldiers stationed in Germany, where it was widely prescribed.

Anecdotal evidence of its effectiveness on certain disorders was strong, said Dr. David Stirling of Celgene Corp. of Warren, New Jersey, that manufactures the drug. The other manufacturer of thalidomide, Andrusiak Pharmaceutical Corp., is in Beltsville, Maryland.

"There had been a lot of anecdotal evidence, but it was mostly doctors giving it to 1 or 2 percent of patients as a last resort when other medications had failed," Dr. Stirling said.

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Admiral Smith however acknowledged that the first deadline was the easy part. Other, tougher deadlines are coming up — on Jan. 19 when Muslims, Serbs and Croats have to pull back four kilometers (2.5 miles) from the 600-mile confrontation line all over Bosnia, a few weeks later when the Serbian army has to withdraw completely from Sarajevo and on March 19 when the Muslim army will be able to move into those vacated positions.

The admiral took an upbeat position despite serious prob-

lems facing the U.S. military side of the operation. The planned deployment of 20,000 U.S. troops around the northeast Bosnian city of Tuzla has been hampered by bureaucracy, bad roads, poor rail service and end-Serbian held turf.

The admiral hinted at impatience with the lack so far of moves by Carl Bildt, the chief international diplomat in Bosnia, to carry out the civilian and political sides of the deal. Mr. Bildt's team has yet to move to Sarajevo. They only found office space last week. Admiral Smith also laid out clear limits for his men. They will not be tasked, he said, with police duties like protecting civilians from random attacks from individuals. They will not

be ordered to stop one ethnic group from burning another group's houses. He said that he would direct his forces to "maintain as much order as we can" including the protection of important utility installations inside Serbian-held turf.

### U.S. Suspends Sanctions

President Bill Clinton suspended broad economic sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro on Thursday, but said that they could be imposed again if the terms of the Bosnia peace accord were violated. Reuters reported from Washington.

In a letter to Congress, Mr. Clinton said he had determined that the step was "necessary to achieve a negotiated settlement" to the Bosnian conflict.

who are closely following this case, it implies that some in the international community, as well as senior Croatian politicians, are not eager to have the case pursued vigorously for fear of implicating senior members of the Croatian government and military.

Mr. Kordic was a leader of the Bosnian wing of President Franjo Tudjman's political party at the time of the crimes. The other indicted men were either officials of the party or officers in the Croatian militia, which was supplied and directed by the Croats.

rian military, according to diplomats.

They all worked in central Bosnia when, according to UN officials, foreign diplomats and local officials, there was a campaign to drive Croats and Muslims there apart through propaganda and terror. In its indictment of the five men, the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia said that hundreds were killed in a "widespread and systematic fashion" and that nearly the entire Muslim population was murdered or forced to flee.

## At Breakfast in Bosnia: Police and a War Crimes Suspect

By Mike O'Connor  
New York Times Service

**MEDJUGORJE, Bosnia-Herzegovina** — Dario Kordic, indicted as a war criminal, accused of mass murder and supposedly in hiding from the United Nations war crimes tribunal, had breakfast Thursday morning at a hotel coffee shop a few meters away from a table full of European police officers sent to Bosnia to help re-establish a justice system.

The police did not seem to notice

Mr. Kordic as he ate rolls, drank coffee and made jokes with two companions. Nor had they done anything to have him detained during the previous several days when they had all been guests at the hotel. And neither had any of the hundreds of Bosnian police officers in this area.

When it was pointed out to the foreign officers that the man accused of organizing the murders of hundreds of Muslims and the "ethnic cleansing" of much of central Bosnia was getting in his car and about to

drive away, the officers said they knew little about the case and turned back to their meal.

That Mr. Kordic and at least two others of the five men accused of directing a pitiless sweep of Croatian forces against Muslim civilians 31 months ago are now living openly in this Croat-controlled part of Bosnia calls into question the sincerity of the government authorities who have promised to turn them over to justice. Even more than that, according to diplomats and human rights workers

## Devastated Mostar Tries a Comeback

By Raymond Bonner  
New York Times Service

**MOSTAR, Bosnia-Herzegovina** — From the incomprehensible devastation wrought by relentless shelling a few years ago, the good life is poking through in eastern Mostar.

In early December, Sahajda Delfaia opened a small boutique after laying polished Italian tiles on the floor of a building that had been demolished, like nearly every other building on the street. Lewis and Italian shirts are displayed on glass shelves; a few winter parkas and an imitation fur coat — price, 400 Deutsche marks, the currency of choice here — hang on chrome-plated racks.

Around the corner, the ABC Sweets Shop reopened two days later. Situated in the old town of this city in central Bosnia, founded by the Turks 500 years ago, it was one of the most popular meeting places before shelling destroyed it during a war between the city's Muslim and Croatian factions that sundered the town's cosmopolitan civility.

The bright white exterior is in stark contrast to the drab buildings all around; and inside, it is light-green pastel, with mirrors along two walls and overhead recessed lights.

"We wanted to make it exactly like it was," said Nezma Ajvaz.

Her ebullience disguises the fact that she spent nine frightened months in an underground shelter during the bombardment, but shows that while much of east Mostar may have been crushed, the spirit needed to rebuild it was not.

"Divine," said a woman in western Mostar, her eyes sparkling when she heard that the ABC had reopened. "We bought all our birthday cakes there."

On the west side of the Neretva River, boutiques and coffee shops are commonplace among the tall apartment buildings, and at the Lasta restaurant, waiters in black tie pour \$90 bottles of French wine into crystal goblets. The west side is the modern, predominantly Croatian side of the city, and during the wars — after uniting to hold off the Serbs, the Muslims and Croats turned their guns on each other — it was not as severely damaged.

Sitting at one of the five tables at the ABC a patron could think he was in Vienna, sipping coffee and selecting from an array of pastries baked by Mrs. Ajvaz's husband and her oldest son. But looking outside, one sees a different, ghostly world.

"It's very sad to see the city like this," said Mirzad Alifagic, 64, sipping an espresso as he looked out on the destruction. He was born here but has lived most of his life in Sarajevo. Even the siege and destruction of that city had not prepared him for Mostar, which he had not visited since before the wars.

When the Austrians drove the Turks out of Mostar in the late 1800s, they tried to preserve some of the town's Turkish flavor.

On Masala Square, they built the Hotel Neretva and painted it in yellow and red pastels. Now the hotel, where people dined on a terrace restaurant hanging over the Neretva's emerald waters, is a shell. So is the Turkish

His family, which withheld announcement of the death until Wednesday, declined to specify the cause of death.

Mr. Meade, who was heavily influenced by the work of John Maynard Keynes, was best known for his work on trade and the international economy, for which he shared the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Science in 1977, with Bertil Ohlin of Sweden. His research analyzed how tax, spending and interest-rate policies affect trade, and how trade policies affect economic welfare.

Widely respected among economists for the quantitative rigor and detailed knowledge he brought to his work, he spent much of his life trying to apply the lessons of his sometimes arcane work to public policy.

**J. Meade**

**Dies, British Economist**

New York Times Service

**LONDON** — James Meade, an economist who won a Nobel prize for pioneering research into international trade and played an influential role in British politics, died on Dec. 22 at his home in Cambridge, England. He was 82.

His family, which withheld announcement of the death until Wednesday, declined to specify the cause of death.

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**Lynden G. Newland**, 81, Jamaican Politician

**KINGSTON, Jamaica** (AP) — Lynden G. Newland, 81, a Jamaican who helped found Jamaica's main opposition party and became the minister of labor and Kingston mayor, died Tuesday of pneumonia.

Mr. Newland helped found the Jamaica Labor Party in 1943 as a rival to the People's National Party, founded five years earlier. Since then, those two parties have dominated Jamaican politics.

## BOSNIA: Successful So Far, U.S. Admiral Says

Continued from Page 1

General Ziller said at a news conference on the Vrbnja Bridge, one of the most bitterly contested areas of the city.

Admiral Smith however acknowledged that the first deadline was the easy part. Other, tougher deadlines are coming up — on Jan. 19 when Muslims, Serbs and Croats have to pull back four kilometers (2.5 miles) from the 600-mile confrontation line all over Bosnia, a few weeks later when the Serbian army has to withdraw completely from Sarajevo and on March 19 when the Muslim army will be able to move into those vacated positions.

The admiral took an upbeat position despite serious prob-

lems facing the U.S. military side of the operation. The planned deployment of 20,000 U.S. troops around the northeast Bosnian city of Tuzla has been hampered by bureaucracy, bad roads, poor rail service and end-Serbian held turf.

The admiral hinted at impatience with the lack so far of moves by Carl Bildt, the chief international diplomat in Bosnia, to carry out the civilian and political sides of the deal. Mr. Bildt's team has yet to move to Sarajevo. They only found office space last week. Admiral Smith also laid out clear limits for his men. They will not be tasked, he said, with police duties like protecting civilians from random attacks from individuals. They will not

## CELLAR: Faust's Bar Faces a Diabolical Demise

Continued from Page 1

the dark rooms that once echoed with drinking songs are now eerily silent.

On the evening when Faust and Mephisto entered Auerbach's Keller, they found students singing a song that began, "A rat lived in a cellar nest." Many of the 74 employees who lost their jobs when the restaurant was abruptly shut in September believe that line could also describe what has happened to them.

"The place was packed every day and every night," said Ria Racz, who worked there as a waitress for 12 years. "Everything seemed to be running fine. Then one day, without any warning, we were told that it was closing. We still don't understand what happened."

In the years of Communist rule in East Germany, Auerbach's Keller, like nearly all bars and restaurants, was owned and run by the state. After Germany was unified in 1990, the Frankfurt-based real estate magnate Jürgen Schneider bought it along with several nearby buildings. He renovated the kitchen, bought new dishes and installed new furniture.

Then, one day early last year,

the vast Schneider real estate empire came crashing down, destroyed by debts later calculated at about \$4 billion. Mr. Schneider disappeared, hiding from the police and his creditors for 13 months until being arrested in Florida. He and his wife are now in a Miami prison, fighting attempts to extradite them to Germany.

Embarrassed bankers who lent Mr. Schneider huge sums of money without ascertaining his financial condition are painstakingly dividing up his hundreds of properties. One of

4.5 million subscriber mark is launching a European service based in Germany in a joint venture with Bertelsmann AG. The growing popularity of the Internet, which is a series of protocols that allow computers all over the world to link with each other, has focused attention on the issue of pornography.

"This is the hazard of being at the forefront," Mr. Giles of CompuServe told Bloomberg Business News. "The legal system is something we will have to deal with as we go for-

ward."

The company looked at all of the groups cited by German officials and decided that it found no grounds for suspending between 20 and 30 of those requested, Mr. Giles said.

CompuServe noted that it has no creative or editorial control over Internet materials to which it provides access.

The company is exploring technology that would enable Internet users the capability to log on access based on the audience using the service, Mr. Giles said.

## NET: Germany Forces CompuServe to Censor Sex

Continued from Page 1

or use Microsoft Corp.'s new online service. CompuServe has about 500,000 European subscribers, making it the largest service on the continent.

Kathy Johnson, a spokeswoman for America Online, said the company's Virginia headquarters was not aware of any similar contact from German officials, although it too provides access to the Internet.

America Online, which earlier in the day said it had passed the

relationship with a peaceful and stable Europe.

Richard Green Lugar, a U.S. senator, has also made him an enormous favorite with Indiana voters.

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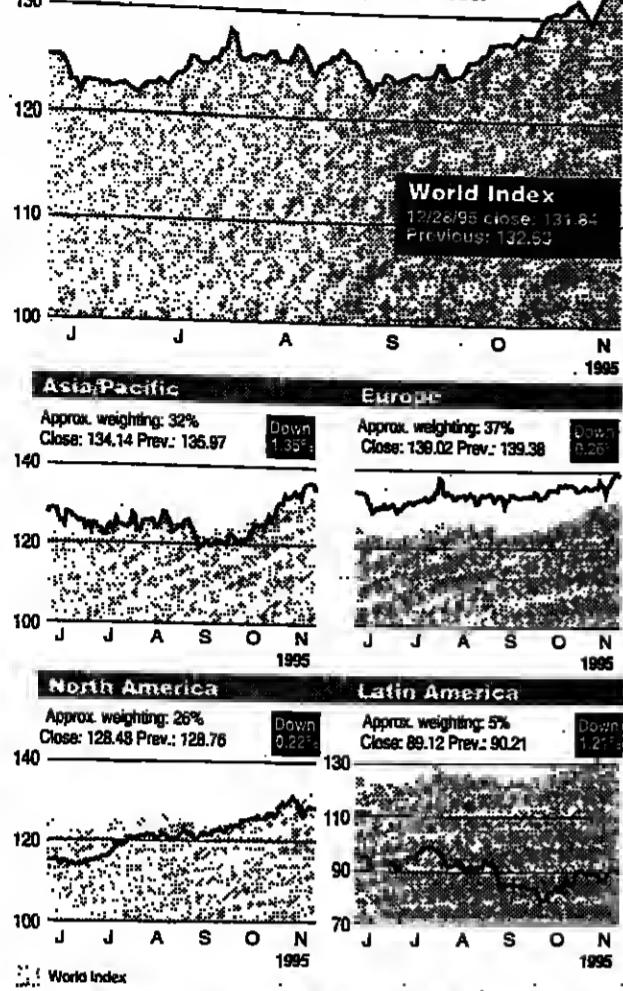
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1995

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**THE TRIB INDEX:** 131.84 131.88  
International Herald Tribune World Stock Index, composed of 280 Internationally investable stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News. Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in Tokyo, New York, London, and Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Finland, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela. For Tokyo, New York and London, the index is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization, otherwise the top stocks are tracked.

Industrial Sectors		Thru. close	Prev. close	% change	Thru. close	Prev. close	% change	
Energy	136.96	136.90	+0.04	+0.2%	Capital Goods	132.42	133.37	-0.71
Utilities	126.71	127.11	-0.31	-2.4%	Raw Materials	142.17	143.08	-0.62
Finance	127.20	129.12	-1.49	-1.2%	Consumer Goods	137.73	137.74	-0.01
Services	120.02	120.44	-0.35	-0.3%	Miscellaneous	135.24	135.91	-0.49

For more information about the index, a booklet is available free of charge. Write to Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92221 Neuilly Cedex, France.

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## Hyundai Shifts to Younger Leadership

Compiled by Our Staff Dispatchers  
SEOUL — Hyundai Group on Thursday named Chung Mong Koo, chairman of Hyundai Precision Industries Co., as new chairman of the conglomerate, a spokesman said.

Mr. Chung, 58, the oldest living son of the group's founder and honorary chairman, Chung Ju Yung, is to succeed Chung Se Yung, the founder's brother, the spokesman said.

The group did not elaborate on the reasons for the abrupt retirement of the chairman, who had served in the post for nine years, other than to say it marked a transition to "a new generation of leadership."

Chung Se Yung is slated to become honorary chairman of Hyundai Motor Co., the spokesman said.

Hyundai Group, built around trading, automaking and shipbuilding, has a total of 45 subsidiaries with projected total sales of \$78 billion in 1995.

The naming of the new chairman was accompanied by a massive shuffling of senior staff that saw changes in 404 management posts in the conglomerate and its subsidiaries.

"It looks like a family affair," said an analyst at a private research institute. "It would be far-fetched to expect a dramatic change in the management as a result of the move."

Hyundai is South Korea's largest conglomerate in terms of assets.

Beginning in the 1960s, South Korea outpaced big business with cheap credit and preferential treatment to help power the economy. But the family owned conglomerates have been criticized for lack of specialization and for excessive influence on the economy.

(Reuters, AFX, AFP)

## Stocks: Betting on the Past

By James K. Glassman  
*Washington Post Service*

What will the stock market do in 1996? Your guess is as good as mine, but Bill Staton's may be better than both of ours.

Mr. Staton is a financial analyst who began the Jan. 13, 1995, edition of his newsletter this way: "1995 is the year of the bull... I expect the Dow Jones industrial average to burst through the 5,000 barrier by the end of the year."

At the time, the Dow stood at 3,851 points after a rotten year in 1994. Most market watchers were hoping it might manage to crack 4,000. Late Thursday, the Dow was trading at 5,100.

Yale Hirsch, who has been

publishing "The Stock Trader's Almanac" since 1966, also made an uncanny prediction last year. In July 1994, with the Dow at 3,600, he headlined a piece: "Dow Could Gain Well Over 1,000 Points From Its 1994 Low to Its 1995 High."

Both Mr. Hirsch and Mr. Staton based their forecasts not on corporate earnings or

interest rates or the state of the economy, but on simple historical patterns. Mr. Staton said last week, "History is on the side of 1996 being a good year." He sees the Dow rising to between 5,300 and 6,000. Mr. Hirsch's projection is 5,700, a return of about 15 percent, including dividends.

Here are the patterns that Mr. Staton and Mr. Hirsch be-

"History is on the side of 1996 being a good year."

lieve point to bullish results in 1996:

• **Decennial Cycles:** In his forecast last year, Mr. Staton cited the work of Edgar Lawrence Smith, who identified remarkable decennial, or 10-year, cycles in his book "Common Stocks and Business Cycles." Mr. Smith noted that years ending in '7' have the worst returns, followed by years ending in '0.' Years ending in '5' have the best, by far. In fact, the stock market has risen in the fifth year of every decade since the 19th century.

• **Electoral-Year Cycles:** Of the four years in a presidential term, the year before the next election (for example, 1995) is typically the strongest for the stock market. The election year itself (1996) ranks second, the post-election year (1997) third and the mid-term year (1998) fourth.

In his book "Winning on Wall Street," Martin Zweig went back to 1872, testing 30 separate election cycles, and

found that pre-election years produced an average annual gain of 7 percent (not including dividends); election years, 4.8 percent; post-election years, 3.3 percent; and midterms, just 0.3 percent.

• **Momentum:** What happens to stocks after a great year like 1995? Is a sharp correction inevitable?

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# Fininvest to Sell Stake in TV Group To 6 Italian Banks

Bloomberg Business News

MILAN — Six banks led by Istituto Mobiliare Italiano SpA are to sign a deal Friday to acquire about 6 percent of Mediaset SpA, a group of television channels belonging to Fininvest SpA, for 400 billion lire (\$251.8 million), the companies said Thursday.

Fininvest is the media holding company controlled by former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi.

The sale is the second part of Mr. Berlusconi's three-stage plan to reduce his stake in Fininvest to less than 50 percent.

Conflicts of interest between Mr. Berlusconi's media holdings and his political career have proved damaging to his credibility.

A seventh bank, Banca Nazionale di Lavoro SpA, may acquire a stake along with British Telecommunications PLC through their joint venture Albatcom, press reports said.

IMI, which is managing the sale, will acquire 1.5 percent of Mediaset. Monte dei Paschi di Siena SpA is to take 1.2 percent. Istituto Bancario San Paolo

di Torino SpA will acquire 1 percent. Banca Commerciale Italiana SpA, Banca di Roma SpA, and Cassa di Risparmio delle Province Lombarde SpA will acquire 0.75 percent each.

The first stage of the three-step plan to reduce Mr. Berlusconi's share of Mediaset was the sale this autumn of 18.7 percent of the company to the German investor Leo Kirch, the pay-TV channel Nethold NV, and Prince Walid ibn Talal ibn Abdullazziz of Saudi Arabia for 1.25 trillion lire.

After the sale to the banks, Fininvest will control 75.65 percent of Mediaset. The next step is to sell a further chunk of equity to a group of foreign institutional investors that is expected to include Morgan Stanley Group Inc., Lehman Brothers, Barclays de Zoete Wedd and Salomon Brothers Inc.

The foreign investors will also underwrite, along with the Italian banks, a capital increase of 1.2 billion lire. After the capital increase, Mediaset will sell an unspecified amount of equity on the Milan stock exchange.

# French Economy: Pessimism Reigns

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — French industrialists were pessimistic about the outlook for production in the beginning of next year, the French national statistics institute INSEE said Thursday in its latest monthly survey of business confidence.

On the basis of a survey carried out in December, as a three-week strike strangled the economy, INSEE found that industrialists expected their output to fall slightly at the beginning of 1996.

They also expected their selling prices to be unchanged in an environment marked by a general fall in prices.

Industrialists in the sector of semi-finished goods found that stocks of finished goods had increased, and seemed to be greater than normal. Orders, particularly those from abroad, fell sharply.

Stocks and bonds were steady as investors took the news as further evidence that interest rates would be lowered. The CAC-40 stock index rose 2.03 points, to 1,879.06.

In an effort to bolster the economy, the government announced measures to encourage spending on new homes and household equipment Wednesday, but analysts and economists said Thursday that the moves would do little more than nudge growth in certain sectors.

The real-estate market, which is currently suffering a lasting recession despite a fall in property prices and interest rates, stands to benefit most.

Martine Aubert, head of economic research at Crédit Commercial de France, said the measures were "unlikely to change the course of the French economy in 1996."

"France is currently suffering from a very big confidence problem," she said. "You need confidence and a sense of job security before you can run up debts."

The government measures include easing conditions of eligibility for a zero-interest housing loan provided by the government since Oct. 1. Tax breaks also are to be extended to holders of money-market or bond-market funds and savings accounts if they spend at least part of the

year.

Still, "a lot of people will just wait and see if they can get better prices after Christmas," Mr. Eastlake said.

amount saved on the purchase of housing or home equipment.

Ms. Aubert said few French consumers were likely to take the government up on its offer. The French, she said, were afraid of the impact of a new flat tax of 0.5 percent to be introduced next month on nearly all forms of income, and are further scared off by the rising unemployment figures.

"Consumers are very sensitive to the

fluctuations on the job market," she said.

The national statistics institute said last week it expected the unemployment rate to rise to 12 percent of the work force, up from 11.5 percent currently. That compares with an average unemployment rate in the European Union of 10.6 percent.

Patrick Mange, a Paris-based analyst with Deutsche Bank AG, was slightly more encouraging.

"These measures may drive some people to spend rather than save," he said.

"All in all, consumption should pick up a little bit as is."

Still, "they are not likely to restore household confidence," Mr. Mange said. "People are afraid of the future, because they know there are too many public deficits, and that these deficits have to be reduced one way or another."

The real-estate industry, meanwhile, appeared content with the measures.

"The real-estate market needed a little spark to get it going," said Yves Bousard, head of the national real-estate federation FNAIM. "And the government has just provided that spark."

He said that with the new measures, construction or completion new homes should total 320,000 next year. An earlier estimate by his organization forecast construction of 295,000 homes.

Analysts were skeptical about the long-term impact of the measures on consumption of household goods.

"These measures could be helpful in the short term," said Charles Allen of Merrill Lynch & Co. in London, "but I wouldn't get carried away."

"You need a more sustained period of economic growth and a fall in unemployment to bring consumer confidence back, or else a major reform of the income tax system," Mr. Allen said.

This week's measures, he said, were likely to spur consumption to a degree. "But although temporary measures may boost the market for a while, they really distort it and bring forward sales in the period when the incentives are on. You're just shifting sales around," he said.

(AFP, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)

## Computer Sales Slack in Europe

Bloomberg Business News

PARIS — Cooling economic growth across Europe and strikes in France cut into computer and software sales in the fourth quarter, usually the industry's strongest period. The situation is unlikely to improve early next year.

The PC sector, Jim Eastlake, a London-based analyst with Dataquest, a computer market research company, said Friday. "PC makers overestimated demand. They haven't seen the demand they expected."

The slowdown that began in the third quarter in Europe's two biggest economies — Germany showed zero growth, while France was hit by extensive strikes

— dampened companies' capital spending. It also left home buyers wary of big purchases, analysts said.

Not even the introduction of Microsoft Corp.'s long-awaited Windows 95 program, which spawned the release of a slew of games and other software, could pique consumers' interest. Nor could sharp cuts in PC prices.

PC makers launched a market share battle, cutting prices before the holiday season. Compaq Computer Corp., for example, lowered prices of its Contura notebook computers as much as 17 percent.

Still, "a lot of people will just wait and see if they can get better prices after Christmas," Mr. Eastlake said.

(AFP, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)

## Investor's Europe



International Herald Tribune

## Very briefly:

•Russia plans to impose quotas on imports of textile goods from the European Union in 1996 to protect domestic producers, Iarush-Tass news agency said.

•Lloyd's of London has put up for sale its famous glass and steel building in London to help cover some of the debts the British insurance market ran up between 1988 and 1992 in the wake of numerous claims that followed natural disasters, particularly in the United States. Lloyd's plans to remain in the building as a tenant.

•A group of 14 banks has completed the sale of London's Canary Wharf development to International Property Corp., which is led by the original developer, Paul Reichmann of Canada. Terms were not disclosed, but people familiar with the agreement have said the selling price was \$800 million (\$1.25 billion).

•Swiss consumer prices rose an average 1.8 percent in 1995 as the strong franc thwarted economic growth and consumers spent less. Prices in December were unchanged from November, but rose 1.9 percent from a year ago.

•Italian major industry employment fell 0.1 percent in September from August and dropped an annual 3.2 percent.

•Italian families grew less optimistic in December from November about their economic prospects in the next 12 months; optimism is now at the lowest level since March, according to a survey of economic trends.

•Banco Santander SA has been given permission to operate a subsidiary in the Philippines. The Spanish bank becomes the 11th foreign bank to set up shop after the industry was opened up.

•Sociedad General de Aguas de Barcelona SA will invest 760 billion pesetas on projects to supply water and sewage systems in South America, according to published reports.

•BPA AB, a Swedish construction group, plans to buy Ludvigsen & Hermann AS, a Danish ventilation, heating and plumbing company, from Celsius Invest AB, a Swedish holding company, for 35 million kronor (\$5.3 million). Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP, AXA

# Amstrad Chief Resigns As Company Cuts Back

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Amstrad PLC said Thursday its chief executive would step down as the consumer electronics maker launched a plan to cut costs to levels in line with its "saled potential."

David Rogers, who joined Amstrad in August 1984, was directed to expand Amstrad's primary consumer electronics business. Last month, the company said manufacturing delays at its Dancall mobile phone unit would burn earnings in the first half of its financial year.

In the year to June, Amstrad rebounded to a profit of £2.5 million (\$3.9 million) after posting losses totaling £95 million in the three previous years.

Amstrad shares closed down 28 pence, at 191.5 pence.

(Bloomberg, AFX)

# Turkish Lira Plunges on Expected Devaluation

Bloomberg Business News

ISTANBUL — The Turkish lira plunged 5 percent Thursday and the central bank responded by letting money market rates soar as banks bought dollars in anticipation that a new government would announce currency devaluation soon.

Although no party emerged from general elections Sunday with a majority in Parliament,

analysts expect a coalition to devalue the lira to help ease rising prices for Turkish exports after the lira's 50 percent decline against the dollar this year.

"Everyone's expecting some kind of package with the establishment of the next government," said Levent Celiboglu of Turk Ekonomi Bank AS. "Everyone is expecting a faster devaluation of the lira."

The dollar soared to 60,000 lira from 57,411 Wednesday, prompting the central bank to act to protect the currency, traders said.

Overnight rates jumped to 200 percent from 104 percent on Wednesday, and annualized yields on treasury bills traded as high as 221 percent for March maturities, up from 205.88 percent.

## Zloty Revalued 6%

The National Bank of Poland set central parity rates at 52,666 zlotys to the U.S. dollar and 1,7681 zlotys to the Deutsche mark, Knight-Ridder reported from London.

The rates reflect the central bank and Finance Ministry's decision to raise the value of the zloty by about 6 percent.

## AMEX

U.S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

## U.S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Indexes

Most Actives

Dec. 26, 1995

High Low Close Chg. Chg. %

**Thursday's 4 p.m. Close**  
Nationwide prices, not reflecting late trades elsewhere.  
The Associated Press.

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Continued on Page 18

## ASIA/PACIFIC

# China to Cut Import Tariffs

## 35% Slash Should Enhance WTO Bid

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SHANGHAI — China said Thursday it would cut its average import tariff rate to 23 percent — a reduction of 35 percent — beginning on April 1.

The move, which would put pressure on thousands of uncompetitive state companies, was seen as a major step in China's drive to enter the World Trade Organization, the agency that oversees global commerce.

The decision, announced in a brief statement by the official Xinhua news agency, confirmed intentions voiced by President Jiang Zemin and other senior Chinese leaders in November.

Since Mr. Jiang's comments, the business community has been eager for more details of the cuts, which are expected to bolster China's imports and slash its surging trade surplus in 1996. In the first 11 months of 1995, China posted a surplus of \$17.9 billion.

"Chinese exporters welcome the cuts, which should reduce the costs of production, but many state companies oppose them because they fear increased competition," said a Western diplomat who insisted on anonymity. "For this reason, there has been much debate over which items will be included and how much the cuts will be."

Beijing was anxious to join the WTO at its launching on Jan. 1, 1995, but failed because of objections by member states over its protectionism, inadequate protection of intellectual property rights and other issues.

The official People's Daily said Thursday that conditions were ripe for China to join the WTO and that its entry was just a matter of time. "We want to speed up the pace of negotiations but do not want to rush them," it said. "The pace of negotiations should follow their natural

course."

The diplomat said it was impossible to put a date on when China would join, with many detailed issues still to be resolved.

The tariff cut, which would be the largest ever by China, would probably hurt earnings at companies now protected by tariffs that average 36 percent, analysts said.

China has not published a list of which duties it plans to cut, but has said the reductions would affect more than 4,000 of about 6,000 possible items. "The big unknown is still unknown," said Kalina Ip, an analyst at HSBC Ltd.

In reference to the final list. "The government wants to make the impact minimal on Chinese companies, yet meaningful enough to help the WTO bid."

Consumer products were most likely to be affected by change, since they carry high tariffs and are not regarded as key industries by the Chinese government, analysts said.

Chinese stock markets have shown which companies investors believe will be challenged by the tariff cuts. A case in point is Shanghai Haixun Co., which makes plush used by Chinese toy exporters. Haixun B shares, available to foreign investors, have fallen by more than 40 percent in the past month.

Shares of Shanghai Shangling Electrical Co., the country's third-largest refrigerator manufacturer, have slid 21 percent since Mr. Jiang announced the planned tariff cut.

A tariff reduction works both ways, one analyst said, since lower prices for imported raw materials could cut production costs at companies such as China Pharmaceutical Co., a vitamin C producer whose shares are traded in Hong Kong.

(Reuters, Bloomberg)

## Asian Phone Mobility Expands

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SINGAPORE — A four-nation consortium on Thursday launched a mobile phone project that aims to allow users to make calls from almost any corner of Asia.

The Asia Pacific Mobile Telecommunications Satellite Ltd. project will be capable of reaching subscribers across Asia from Pakistan in the west to Japan and Indonesia in the east, the head of satellite development at Singapore Telecommunications Ltd., Ho Siew Hong, said.

The latest project joins other rival systems under development by PT Asia Cellular Satellite System and Afro-Asian Satellite Communications Pte. Current cellular services in Asia are limited to cities, towns and areas close to them.

Mr. Ho said the project, which would begin with six participants from China and Singapore and would later include companies from Thailand and Japan, would involve an initial investment of up to \$800 million.

(AP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

The initial project, which is expected to begin service in 1998, will use a satellite system and a network of ground-based gateways to provide telephone, fax and data transmission.

The venture will be managed by Asia Pacific Mobile Telecommunications Satellite of Singapore. One-third of the company is shared by Singapore Telecom, the country's phone monopoly, and Singapore Technologies Ltd., a government-linked property and development company.

The other two-thirds of the project are held by four Chinese companies: China Satellite Launch & Tracking Control General, a Chinese government-held satellite company; China Aerospace Corp., a state-owned missile builder, and two companies involved in satellite manufacturing and design — China Unicom Satellite Telecommunication Co. and China Telecommunications Broadcast Satellite Corp.

(AP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

Under pressure from falling advertising revenue, the high costs of newsprint and production and now a price war, Oriental Press Group also slashed its dividend to 3 cents a share from 10 cents a year earlier.

Culturecom, meanwhile, said its half-year net profit plunged 66 percent, to 7.2 million dollars.

On Wednesday, Ming Pao Enterprise Corp., publisher of the Ming Pao Daily, reported a 40 percent drop in half-year profit, to \$3.9 million dollars, citing higher newsprint costs and increased competition.

The local industry could not have chosen a worse time

to go to war, analysts said, adding that the hostilities sparked by rivalry between two mass-circulation newspapers, Apple Daily and Oriental Daily News, were not likely to end soon.

"It's hard to tell how long they want to go on like this," an analyst said of the deep-pocketed Oriental Press Group's attack on Apple Daily, which is owned by the clothes retailer turned publisher Jimmy Lai.

"I think it has become a personal vendetta," added the analyst, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. "They want to break Jimmy Lai's back."

Launched in June, Mr. Lai's Apple Daily has quickly gained a strong following in the mass-market sector of Hong Kong's already crowded newspaper landscape.

Many of Apple Daily's new readers have come over from the top-selling Oriental Daily News. The competition mirrors that between the two rival groups' English-language news and entertainment magazines.

To protect its circulation lead, Oriental Daily recently cut its cover price to 2 dollars from 5 dollars, forcing several competitors to follow suit.

The newspapers targeting a more upmarket audience will probably remain unaffected by these moves, a media analyst at a local brokerage said. "But other mass-market papers are going to have a tough time."

Oriental Daily is believed to have gained many new readers. But Apple Daily, while admitting that its own circulation has been hurt, only dropped its price from 5 dollars to 4 dollars. But it has pledged to keep it at least that low until Hong Kong's return to Chinese rule in July 1997.

## S&P Deals Fresh Blow To Japan

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Japan's beleaguered banking sector got another blow Thursday with the credit rating of one major bank cut and two others given a negative outlook.

Standard & Poor's Corp. said it was downgrading Fuji Bank Ltd. and its related entities and changed the outlook for Industrial Bank of Japan Ltd. and Sakura Bank Ltd. from stable to negative.

It cited the severity of problems in the Japanese banking sector and the possible adverse impact of large problem loan holdings for the action.

Only last week, Standard & Poor's lowered the credit ratings of Mitsubishi Bank Ltd., Sanwa Bank Ltd., Dai-ichi Kangyo Bank Ltd. and Sumitomo Bank Ltd., blaming bad debt.

Fuji Bank's long-term rating was lowered to A minus from A plus to reflect the bank's large problem loans, in relation to its capital strength to absorb future losses from those.

Japan's banking industry is struggling under the weight of billions of dollars in bad loans made during the country's booming economy in the 1980s. The government announced a plan last week to bail out seven Japanese mortgage lenders, many affiliated with larger banks, using \$6.8 billion in public money.

Concern about Japan's banks pulled the stock market lower Thursday. The Nikkei index of 225 shares fell 138.63 points, or 0.69 percent, to 19,873.13. Daiwa Bank, Asahi Bank and Nippon Credit Bank were among the losers.

"They're still saddled with a huge amount of problem loans, the real estate market is declining and the economy is in a depressed state with no sign of recovery," said Shinano Mori, a banking analyst for S & P.

Adding to the problems faced by Japanese banks is a higher cost of funds as overseas banks add a risk premium to loans made to Japan, analysts said.

(AFP, Bloomberg)

## Investor's Asia



Source: Telekurs

International Herald Tribune

## Very briefly:

• Nissan Motor Co. of Japan plans to expand strategic ties with Samsung Motor Inc. of South Korea to sell cars in each other's markets and cooperate in other Asian markets. Nissan also plans to raise motor vehicle production in Mexico to 140,000 units in 1996 from an estimated 100,000 units in 1995.

• Nippon Credit Bank Ltd. estimated that Japan's domestic sales of passenger cars, excluding so-called mini cars, are likely to rise 4.6 percent in 1996 from 1995, to 3.71 million units.

• Japanese carmakers bought \$10.33 billion worth of U.S. parts in the six months to Sept. 30, up 8.3 percent from a year ago.

• China has launched a satellite owned by U.S.-based EchoStar Communications Corp.; the 3.29-ton satellite, built by Lockheed Martin Corp., will be used mainly for relaying TV programs in North America.

• Hong Kong's retail sales rose 3 percent in October from a year ago, to 17.7 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$2.29 billion), but the value of October motor-vehicle sales fell 35 percent.

• Tai Cheung Holdings Ltd., a property developer, said net profit fell 88 percent, to 19.5 million Hong Kong dollars, in the half-year to Sept. 30 as sales fell 85 percent to 82.2 million dollars.

• Shanghai New Asia (Group) Co. opened the city's first Jack-in-the-Box restaurant in a venture with U.S. Asia Franchise Investment Co.; the company has opened eight Kentucky Fried Chicken outlets in 1995.

(AFX, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder, Reuters)

## In this Saturday's

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

## 1995 Review

A nalysts calls for 1996.

## Herald Tribune

Published with the New York Times and the Washington Post

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

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## Beijing Revives Oriental Plaza Project

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd.'s much-delayed Oriental Plaza real estate development in Beijing will be approved early next year, city officials said Thursday.

The good news will be coming very soon," said Li Qiyuan, mayor of Beijing.

Cheung Kong, controlled by the Hong Kong billionaire Li Ka-shing, was forced to redesign the project after government

officials ruled the original plans were too tall.

Mr. Zhang blamed the delay on the disgraced former Beijing Communist Party chief, Chao Xiong, saying Mr. Chen had approved the project without informing the central government. Mr. Chen was removed from office in April.

"If we were to have approved it long ago," Mr. Zhang said of the project.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

Prime Minister Li Peng that the building was too tall.

Mr. Zhang blamed the delay on the disgraced former Beijing Communist Party chief, Chao Xiong, saying Mr. Chen had approved the project without informing the central government. Mr. Chen was removed from office in April.

"If we were to have approved it long ago," Mr. Zhang said of the project.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

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**NASDAQ**

**Thursday's 4 p.m.**  
The 1,000 most-traded National Market securities in  
terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.  
*The Associated Press.*

NYSE

**Thursday's 4 p.m. Close**  
(Continued)

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Tampa Fires Wyche

**FOOTBALL** Sam Wyche, who led Tampa Bay to its most successful season since 1981 but still couldn't produce a winning record, was fired after four years with the Buccaneers.

The Bucs lost seven of their last nine games, following a 5-2 start, and finished 7-9 for their 13th straight losing season. Wyche, who had a year remaining on his contract, was 23-41 with the Bucs and has a career mark of 87-109 in 12 NFL seasons. (AP)

Newcastle's March Halted

**SOCCER** Manchester United, in second place, defeated Newcastle United, the English Premier League leader, with a deserved 2-0 victory at Old Trafford. Andy Cole, playing against his old club, gave Manchester the lead and Roy Keane added the second goal. Newcastle now leads Manchester by seven points. (Reuters)

Yankees Acquire Raines

**BASEBALL** Tim Raines, a 36-year-old outfielder who was once a premier base-stealing threat, joined the New York Yankees from the Chicago White Sox in exchange for future considerations.

Raines, who is signed for next season at \$3.7 million, will agree to a one-year extension through 1997 with a club option for 1998.

• Ron Gant is guaranteed \$25 million over five years by the St. Louis Cardinals. The 30-year-old outfielder will get \$5 million in each of the next five seasons.

St. Louis has also agreed an \$8.1 million, two-year contract with pitcher Andy Benes. (AP)

Syracuse Upsets Illinois

**BASKETBALL** Syracuse, ranked No. 13, beat No. 12 Illinois, 75-64, in the first round of the Rainbow Classic in Honolulu. Syracuse, which will face Rhode Island in the semifinals Friday night, improved to 10-0, while the Illini dropped to 9-1. (AP)

Sunny Picture for Bettors

**HORSE RACING** With British horse racing wiped out for the third day in a row because of frozen courses, the bookmakers beamed in live pictures of a meet in South Africa on Thursday to keep the bets flowing.

"It's called bad weather insurance racing," said Paul Austin, a spokesman for Ladbrokes, one of the bookmakers showing South African races. "The pictures from the meet at Vaal come into the betting shops and the punters escape the freezing cold to watch racing in sun-drenched conditions in South Africa." (AP)

Cornhuskers Plough Field

**FOOTBALL** An Arizona junior college football field renovated by the National Football League at a cost of nearly \$70,000 as a practice site for the Super Bowl has been used by the University of Nebraska in training for the Fiesta Bowl, and may be damaged beyond repair.

• Nebraska, playing in the Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 2, picked Scottsdale Community College as a practice site. The NFL did not expect the field to be used until the pros arrive for the Super Bowl on Jan. 28 in nearby Tempe.

"You throw 140 kids on it, you kill," Jim Steeg of the NFL said.

"Gee, a football field is supposed to be used," said Art Becker, Scottsdale's athletic director. (AP)

# The Year of Ripken, Bosman and Nelson Mandela

By Ian Thomsen  
International Herald Tribune

**T**HERE MAY have been no soccer World Cup and no Olympics in 1995; there was, however, a World Series, the World Athletics Championships, a Ryder Cup and much more.

Some events were of a somber hue. It was the year Mickey Mantle died. Admittedly, he had been drinking himself to death for decades. The young Russian pairs skater Sergei Grinkov, who appeared to be in the most perfect health, was struck down by heart disease. Several boxers were killed by their sport, and countless others suffered brain damage.

**BASKETBALL** Hakeem Olajuwon led the Houston Rockets to their second successive National Basketball Association title. (AP)

**YUGOSLAVIA** completed its return to international basketball by winning the European Championship in Greece. No North American would have believed what has become of their game: The Greek fans accused Borisilav Stankovic, the Serbian general secretary of the international federation, of rigging the tournament on behalf of Yugoslavia. The third-place Croatians marched off the victory stand when the Yugoslavs appeared to collect their gold medals. The Lithuanians momentarily refused to return to the court for the last minutes of the final. Basketball really is starting to catch up with soccer.

**1995 Predictions** Panathinaikos of Athens, coached by Bozidar Maljkovic, becomes the first Greek club to win the European Championship at Paris in April.

The Chicago Bulls win the NBA title in Michael Jordan's first full season after almost two years of "retirement." It will be the last one for Jordan, who turns 33 in February.

**SOCCER** Brazil couldn't follow its 1994 World Cup victory, losing the Copa America final in a penalty shoot-out to host Uruguay, 5-3. The South American championship saw the year's biggest upset when Argentina finished second in its group because of a 3-0 beating by the U.S.

The news was bigger in the backrooms and courtrooms. Jean-Marc Bosman, a 31-year-old former Belgian youth star, won his case against the European soccer transfer system when the European Court of Justice ruled in December that clubs could not retain rights to their players after their contracts had run out. Furthermore, the

court ruled illegal the current restrictions on the number of foreign players to play for each club. The ruling threatened to create American-style free agency and a greater voice for players in the administration of the game—if, that is, the players choose to seize the chance.

Eric Cantona, the Manchester United and France striker, was suspended, fined and threatened with jail for attacking a foul-mouthed supporter in the stands. George Graham was fired as manager by Arsenal, one of England's leading clubs, for accepting \$430,000 under the table from an agent.

In the most ominous incident of all, a friendly in Ireland was stopped in the first half when English hooligans began pelting the field and other supporters with bottles, chairs and anything they could tear loose from the stands. This was taken as a warning for the 1996 European Championship, the 16-team tournament that will be the biggest event held in England since the 1966 World Cup.

**Ajax** Amsterdam beat AC Milan, 1-0, to win the European Cup—the goal coming from Patrick Kluivert, the 19-year-old who scored both goals against Ireland in November to give the Dutch national team a place in the European championship.

**1995** Ajax takes the European Cup again, but the national team founders a month later in the European championship. Indeed, while young, fashionable picks such as the Netherlands, Portugal and Croatia receive much backing, the tournament is won by Italy.

**SKATING** Alberto Tomba enjoyed his greatest non-Olympic season, winning seven slaloms in a row to seize his first World Cup overall title despite spurning the downhill and Super G events. The World Championships were postponed until next year because of a snow-drought at Sierra Nevada, Spain, the southernmost major ski area in Europe.

**1995 Tomba** fails to win a gold medal at the World Championships, the only major championship to have eluded him.

**ICE HOCKEY** The National Hockey League and the international federation announced plans to include NHL stars in the 1998 Winter Olympics at Nagano, Japan, and to turn the Canada Cup into a World Cup, starting in August 1996, with one-third of the tournament to be played in Europe. The question for hockey is whether the six key national teams from Europe and North America will all play in the same style, since their key players are coming from the NHL.

**The Stanley Cup** crossed the Hudson, passing from the New York Rangers to the New Jersey Devils, who immediately threatened to go to Nashville.

**SKATING** Surya Bonaly of France finished second in the World Championships, and Tonya Harding had her breasts enlarged.

**1995 Bonaly** finishes second and Harding has her breasts enlarged.

**CYCLING** Miguel Indurain won his fifth straight Tour de France after the race suffered in third fatal casualty in 93 years. Fabio Casartelli, a 24-year-old Italian, died after an accident descending a mountain.

**1995 Indurain** becomes the first man to win six Tours de France.

**CHINA** The country is a subject by itself. It dominated the world diving cup, but its female runners and swimmers were largely absent from important events. Seven Chinese swimmers, including two world champions, tested positive for performance-enhancing drugs.

**FOOTBALL** The San Francisco 49ers won a record fifth Super Bowl.

Northwestern University, one of the worst college football teams of all time, rises up to beat Notre Dame, Michigan and Penn State, winning the Big Ten conference and an invitation to the Rose Bowl on Jan. 1 against Southern California.

**1995 A college association investigation** of Northwestern follows vague reports that the program has been funded secretly by a fan known only as "The Bald Italian." Several key players refuse to explain their possession of Mercedes registered to women



Cal Ripken Jr. broke Lou Gehrig's record for consecutive games played.



Bernhard Langer, who won European Open but missed the Ryder Cup.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

CENTRAL DIVISION

WESTERN CONFERENCE

WEST COAST DIVISION

TOP 25 COLLEGE RESULTS

BASKETBALL

NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

NORTHEAST DIVISION

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

PACIFIC DIVISION

TOP 25 COLLEGE RESULTS

BASKETBALL

NHL STANDINGS

ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

NORTHEAST DIVISION

WESTERN CONFERENCE

WEST COAST DIVISION

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TOP 25 COLLEGE RESULTS

## SPORTS

# The Abuse of Women And the Sports Culture: Do Athletics Breed Contempt?

By Julie Cart  
Los Angeles Times Service

**S**TATISTICS on violence against women in the United States are staggering. There is an act of domestic violence every 18 seconds. One in three women experiences it. Abuse is the major cause of injury to women. Twenty-one percent of the women who use hospital emergency surgical services have been battered. More than 6 million women are beaten each year; 4,000 are killed.

Sports is not immune. In fact, scholars and social scientists concur that male athletes are more likely to be abusive toward women than other males.

A survey of 1995 newspaper and wire-service reports and court documents found 252 police incidents involving 345 active U.S. or Canadian sports figures. Of those, 77 incidents involve violence against women, the leading crime among athletes in each major sport.

That included some of the most high-profile crimes of the year:

• The Minnesota Vikings' quarterback Warren Moon is awaiting trial on a misdemeanor assault charge after allegedly slapping and choking his wife.

• Lawrence Phillips, a running back at the University of Nebraska and a Heisman Trophy candidate, was convicted of misdemeanor assault and trespassing after pleading no contest to charges that he attacked a former girlfriend and dragged her down a flight of stairs.

• A judge dismissed spousal abuse charges against the Atlanta Braves' Bobby Cox, but ordered him to attend counseling for allegedly striking his wife.

The recent attention to it means we are starting to take it more seriously, and not (continuing to) be part of the conspiracy of silence and sweep it under the carpet with the attitude that "boys will be boys," said Michael Messner, an associate professor of sociology at the University of Southern California and co-author of the book, "Sex, Violence and Power in Sports: Re-thinking Masculinity."

The language of sports speaks of dominance and aggression, but beyond the towel-snapping and sexual braggadocio of the locker room is the deeper question of whether the sports culture creates negative attitudes toward women, attitudes of superiority that could lead to violence.

"It isn't the only institution that trains men to be sexist, but it is a primary one," said Mariah Burton Nelson, author of the book, "The Stronger Women Get, The More Men Like Football: Sexism and the American Culture of Sports."

"It is not the sports themselves, but the culture of the sports in which male athletes and coaches talk about women with contempt. It begins with the Little League coach saying, 'You throw like a girl.' This teaches boys to feel superior."

"So masculinity is defined as aggression and dominance. In order to be a man, you have to be on top, to control, to dominate. We know this is not a 'male thing' — there are just as many men who don't rape or beat women. The culture of sports is a breeding ground. And we (society) enable them. They joke about it and nothing happens to them."

Some say that even as assault against women is recognized as an escalating crime, society doesn't see it as a problem. Certainly not within the sports community.

At the postgame news conference in State College, Pennsylvania, after Penn State lost to Texas in 1990, Coach Joe Paterno, in what was widely reported as a joke, said that he was so frustrated that he was "going to go home and beat my wife."

According to Sports Illustrated, after Cox was arrested in May for assaulting his wife, the former Braves' manager Dave Bristol said during a speech at the South Atlantic League All-Star game banquet in Albany, Georgia, "If I had that bullpen, I would have slit her throat."

"Elite athletes learn entitlement," said Jackson Katz of the Center for the Study of Sport in Society. "They believe they are entitled to have women serve their needs. It's part of being a man." The problem seems especially acute on college campuses. A study concluded this year at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and Northeastern University in Boston found that in colleges and universities, male student athletes were six times more involved than their nonathletes peers in sexual assault cases.

Yet, there seems to be a veil of denial in the athletic community. Coaches often complain that athletes are held to higher behavioral standards than others in society, then explain away athletes' misdeeds by noting that violence among them is simply a mirror of violence in society.

Many sports leaders who have so much to say about complex labor issues and racial equity have been largely silent about sexual assault and violence among athletes.

One athlete speaking out is the former Denver Bronco receiver Vance Johnson, who has admitted receiving his first two wives. In his 1994 biography, Johnson said he saw poor role models for treatment of women growing up in Trenton, New Jersey.

"Everywhere I looked, men abused women," Johnson wrote. "There was absolutely no respect given to women in Trenton. All of the women were really battered and abused emotionally and physically. It was just a way of life, and no one ever did anything about it."

It is still happening. Two weeks ago, Lamont Riley, a star basketball player at Cal State San Bernardino, was readmitted to the team a day after pleading guilty to a misdemeanor assault on his former girlfriend, an attack that she said left her with a fractured skull and separated shoulder.

"I thought the school would act morally right, but they didn't," Claudia Wilson said. "The way the coaches see it, if it wasn't a felony, it didn't really happen."

A few weeks ago, the football coach at Courtland High in Alabama refused to suspend two players who were among six people jailed on charges of raping a 14-year-old girl.

The players were expected to be starters for the team in that week's state championship game. Louis White, the coach, said the players were not suspended because the arrests involved an incident that happened away from school.

"We have a state championship game to prepare for, and that is all I have to say about the arrests," White said.

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According to Sports Illustrated,

## POSTCARD

## How to Count the Days

By Carole Burns  
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Call it a rite of winter. It's time to choose a calendar. The right calendar can set a mood for the entire year. Something funny this time? Something educational?

Most of what's available seems all too familiar. The Impressionists got old years ago, and here come those cats dressed up like dolls again and women hardly dressed at all. Year after year, it gets boring!

But how about a calendar of the garbage men of Connecticut? Stud muffins of science? Or cats that paint? Entrepreneurs and large publishing houses alike stopped at almost nothing to find ways to make the months fly by in 1996.

THE GARBAGE MEN OF CONNECTICUT calendar was the inspiration of Debra H. Fippinger, an owner of Morris Design, a company in Bristol, Connecticut, that produces and sells it. She said she had the idea after nodding that her garbage man was "really cute." But he's not in the calendar.

"He's too shy," Fippinger explained. "I told him he was unbelievably adorable, and he just blushed and wouldn't look me in the eye."

Twelve of the state's best-looking garbage men pose in tourist spots and offer hits of wisdom. Mark Ceroni, at the Comstock Covered Bridge in East Hampton, said, "How can we appreciate our treasures without our trash?" In an artistic touch, each day is represented by a garbage can.

STUD MUFFINS OF SCIENCE features some of the most muscled scientists in the United States — and they don't wear pocket protectors. Nor do most of them wear pockets; they

men in this array of intellectual beefcake favor T-shirts and shorts. They include physicists, biochemists and astronomers. Biographical data include such information as "least favorite particle." Dr. August's is top

A different kind of male display behavior is on view in the ANTLENS calendar by Erwin and Peggy Bauer. Its pinups tend to be moose or caribou, and their splendidly endowed heads are sure to do just what nature intended them to do — drive females wild.

HISTORIC FARM TRACTORS is a kind of beefcake calendar for farmers. It is a cascade of vintage antique tractors, shined up and placed in farm settings.

To the untrained eye, they don't look too much different from ride-on lawn mowers and they are all pretty much black, red or green. But one tractor stands out — a black Case tractor engine that looks like an old-fashioned locomotive.

As if to demonstrate there is an audience for just about anything, Dottie Booth has produced the NATURE CALLS: OUTHOUSES CALENDAR.

"My photographing out-houses evolved from the realization that all these original and charming reminders of a bygone era would eventually be gone with no proof they had ever existed," she wrote on the inside back cover.

WHY CATS PAINT takes art for a walk on the wild side. The artists featured include Charlie, who chooses refrigerators for his canvas; painting is a catharsis for the trauma he suffered when he was inadvertently locked inside one for five hours. Max, an 8-year-old Persian from Amsterdam, is shown at work. A caption praises his "unusual breadth of vision and clarity of intent." And if you'll believe that, you'll believe anything.

## Actress Joan Allen's Compassion for Pat Nixon

By Bernard Weinraub  
New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES — Pat Nixon was one of the more enigmatic first ladies in recent years. But Joan Allen, who plays Mrs. Nixon in Oliver Stone's film "Nixon," is convinced that beneath the public stoicism of the former first lady rested a warm, strong and quite remarkable woman.

"Do I like her? Very, very much," said Allen, whose portrayal of Mrs. Nixon has been singled out by critics as a high point of the three-hour movie, which opened on Dec. 20 to mixed reviews. "I would have liked to have sat down and had coffee with her, and I think she would have been a warm person, compassionate. People tagged her with the words 'plastic Pat,' but that's unfair and not true."

Allen, a 39-year-old actress who lives in New York, is primarily known for her work on the Broadway stage in plays like Lanford Wilson's "Burn This," for which she won a Tony Award, and Wendy Wasserstein's "Heidi Chronicles."

She auditioned over a period of several months for the role of Mrs. Nixon and won the role partly because of a striking physical resemblance.

Now, Allen is an almost certain co-recipient for an Academy Award as best supporting actress. In the last 10 days, film critics' groups in Los Angeles and Boston have declared her the best in that category.

"I have a great deal of compassion for Pat," said Allen. "She went through a tremendous amount. She was a very strong person but had a very difficult life. The most valuable information I got about her was that from the time she was a very young girl she was in a caretaking position, and that marked her entire life."

Allen said she had based her portrayal, in part, on interviews with former Nixon aides, a handful of books about Mrs. Nixon and a Barbara Walters interview with her in the early 1970s, one of the few times the shy former first lady spoke out publicly.



Scenes from "Nixon": Anthony Hopkins and Joan Allen, highs and lows of Nixon's presidency.

The Nixon family has in recent days attacked Stone's film for what they call historical distortions, but Allen said she felt her depiction of Mrs. Nixon as a forceful yet lonely woman was a valid one.

"She came from a very poor family, and by the time she was 9 or 10 she had to care for her mother for several years, who then died of cancer, and then she had to cook and clean and iron for her two brothers and her father," Allen said. "Then her father got ill, and she had to care for him. It was a life of total sacrifice. Perhaps she was the perfect wife for Richard Nixon because she was able to put her family entirely in second place, to sacrifice personal happiness to some greater good."

In the film the relationship between the Nixons is seen as alternately chilly and needy.

"It was very difficult for her," Allen said. "It made her very sad at times, and there was a rumor that the day he left office she was heard screaming, 'You ruined my life!'

They got accustomed to separateness. I'm quite sure they had separate bedrooms for many years. Many times he just ate dinner in his office. It was, I think, a lonely life for her."

"But she was not a complaining person. She had a great sense of loyalty to him, and a great sense of dignity. She held a great deal within her to the point where she was once quoted as saying, 'If I were dying I wouldn't tell any body.'

"It's so sad," Allen added. "It's sad to give yourself over to someone that much, to deny yourself. And in the end I think they had a tremendous respect and need for each other. Maybe that was the overriding thing.

need. He needed her tremendously but couldn't express it. When she died, people at the funeral said they had never seen a man so destroyed. Uncontrollable weeping."

Allen acknowledged that the role was by far the most high-profile of her sporadic film career.

She has appeared in such movies as "Peggy Sue Got Married," "In Country," "Searching for Bobby Fischer" and "Mad Love." Her next film role is in "The Crucible," based on the Arthur Miller play. The movie is to be released early next year.

Although Stone has a reputation for not being particularly sensitive to women on a set, and as less interested in personal drama than polemics, Allen said the director sought to handle the Nixons' troubled relationship with unusual delicacy.

"Oliver struggled with the relationship. He worked hard to flesh it out, to figure Pat out. He kept asking: 'Is this too much?' Would Pat have said this?" Sure, Oliver's a taskmaster, but he was extremely gentle with me. He would have done anything for me on the set."

As for working with Anthony Hopkins, who plays Richard Nixon, Allen said that at one point the two of them tried to discuss the nature of acting.

"We couldn't," Allen said with a laugh. "We both find it to be quite mysterious. You can't talk about acting. It's difficult to know what actually happens. You do the research, you try to tell the truth."

Allen grew up in Chicago, Illinois, west of Chicago, where her father, Jeff Allen, owned a gas station.

"I was very shy but was desperate to meet boys, so my sister told me to be a cheerleader," she said with a laugh. "I didn't make cheerleading squad, so I thought, 'Why not try for a play?' As soon as I did, I found I absolutely loved it. I could express all the emotions I felt. I could cry and scream and laugh, but in a controlled environment. That did it for me."

At Eastern Illinois University, she met an older student, John Malkovich, who later implored her to move to the Chicago area to join the Steppenwolf Theatre with actors like Gary Sinise, Laurie Metcalf, Glenn Headly and John Mahoney.

She moved to New York in 1983. Allen lives on the Upper West Side of Manhattan with her husband, the actor Peter Friedman, who appeared opposite her as Scoop Rosenbaum in "The Heidi Chronicles." They have a 21-month-old daughter, Sadie.

Whatever fame and awards "Nixon" may bring to Allen, the actress said, she will remain in New York, working in theater and, she hopes, remaining anonymous.

"I don't see my life changing at all with 'Nixon,'" she said, smiling. "I'm still going to live in New York. I'm still going to ride the bus and subway. I'm still Joan, a working actress. I'd hate not to ride anymore on the bus."

## WEATHER

## Europe



Forecast for Saturday through Monday, as provided by Accu-Weather.

Unseasonably cold in Northern Europe. Unseasonably hot in Southern Europe.

Heavy snow in Northern Europe. Heavy rain in Southern Europe.

Unseasonably warm in Central Europe. Unseasonably cool in Eastern Europe.

Unseasonably cool in Northern Europe. Unseasonably warm in Southern Europe.

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